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PRELIMINARY INVENTORY OF THE RECORDS OF
THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT - WYOMING

RECORD GROUP 49

COMPILED BY
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GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE
ARCHIVES BRANCH
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The legislative process establishing the procedure for the transfer of Federal public lands to private ownership began when the Ordinance of 1785 authorized the survey of public lands into rectangular sections one mile square to be sold in lots of one section or more to the highest bidder. The Ordinance also called for the appointment by Congress of one surveyor from each state who was to be under the direction of the Geographer of the United States, an appointed official whose office dated from the early days of the Revolutionary War. The Land Act of 1796 (1 Stat. 464) abolished the position of Geographer and established the position of Surveyor General. Surveyors General were to be officers of the Treasury Department, appointed by the President, and authorized to hire and supervise their own assistants, or deputy surveyors. The first Surveyor General was "to survey ... the lands lying northwest of the river Ohio." In 1803, Congress authorized a similar position for the lands south of the Tennessee River. As the frontier moved westward, Surveyors General were appointed for western districts until eventually there was one for each public land Territory or State.

The first local land offices were authorized by an act of May 10, 1800 (2 Stat. 73). A land office was normally staffed by two officials, the Register and the Receiver. The Register was responsible for the land entry papers until they were forwarded to Washington and for maintaining the tract books and other records relating to the land claims. The Receiver was responsible for receiving payments for land and keeping records of the receipts. Both officers were to submit similar but separate reports monthly, thereby maintaining a system of checks upon each other.

With the establishment of the local land offices and a system of surveying the public domain, the major features for implementing the national land policy had been established. However, the increasing number of settlers moving to the frontier necessitated the creation of a special organization to handle the sale of public land. By an act of April 25, 1812 (2 Stat. 716), the General Land Office was established as a bureau of the Treasury Department. The President was authorized to appoint a Commissioner whose duty was to "superintend, execute, and perform, all such acts and things, touching or respecting the public lands of the United States, and other lands patented or granted by the United States . . ." The Surveyors General remained autonomous until July 4, 1836 (5 Stat. 117), when those offices were placed under the supervision of the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

The General Land Office remained a part of the Treasury Department until 1849, when it was incorporated into the newly formed Department of the Interior. In 1946, the General Land Office and the Grazing Service (which had been created in 1934 to administer the districts established under the Taylor Grazing Act) were combined to form the Bureau of Land Management, which has remained within the Department of the Interior to the present.

The records described in this inventory are part of those resulting from the transfer of public lands in Wyoming to private ownership. The majority of the records were created by officials at the six land offices located in Wyoming during various periods. The first land office was established at Cheyenne in 1870. As more individuals moved into Wyoming and new areas were opened for settlement, additional land offices were created at Evanston (1877), Buffalo (1888), Douglas (1890), Lander (1890), and Sundance (1890). It was at those land offices that an entryman normally began the procedure to obtain legal title to a land entry.

A person wishing to make an "entry" of any type went to the Register of the local land office and filed his claim upon the public domain. Some entries, such as preemptions and similar cash entries, were settled fairly quickly with little additional paperwork involved. Other types of claims, such as homesteads, desert lands, and timber cultures, required numerous proofs extending over a period of years. As appropriate, the entryman returned to the land office and filed his papers, which ranged from the simple applications to purchase to long term proofs, affidavits, public notices, newspaper printings, final certificates, and other documents. When all the legal requirements for title to the claimed land had been satisfied, a final certificate was issued by the Register to the entryman and the accumulated papers were forwarded to the General Land Office. If, upon examination by the GLO, everything was found to be in order, a patent was prepared and sent to the Register for delivery to the entryman.

The remaining records described in this inventory were created primarily by officials of the office of the Surveyor General of Wyoming, which was the office responsible for administering Federal land surveys in Wyoming. Proposals for surveys were normally submitted by settlers' petitions, although they could also be requested by Congressional legislation or through an administrative decision of the General Land Office. After the petition was prepared and signed by the interested parties, the Surveyor General sent it to the Commissioner with his recommendation. If approved by the Commissioner, the survey was performed by a deputy surveyor under contract with the Surveyor General.

In addition to performing the actual survey, the contract deputies were also responsible for keeping detailed field notes so that the staff of the survey office could draft the plats. A primary responsibility of the Surveyor General was the examination and certification of these plats and field notes. After the plat was certified a duplicate was filed with the General Land Office and a triplicate copy was sent to the appropriate land office for use in making land entries. The original plat remained in the survey office.

The contract system of surveying was ended by an act of June 25, 1910 (36 Stat. 676), which provided for surveys to be made by appointees employed directly by the General Land Office under Civil Service regulations. This policy initiated a major reorganization of the public land surveying system. The general supervision of surveys was placed under a Supervisor of Surveys who reported directly to the Commissioner of the

General Land Office. The country was divided into ten surveying districts, each administered by an Assistant Supervisor of Surveys. Most of the paperwork continued to be handled by the Surveyors General, who issued special survey instructions, prepared plats, handled survey moneys, and acted as custodians of the survey records. This division of survey responsibilities continued until July 1, 1925 (43 Stat. 1141), when the position of Surveyor General was abolished and all surveying duties were given directly to the Supervisor of Surveys.

The records described in this inventory are those of the Bureau of Land Management for Wyoming which are now in the custody of the Archives Branch, Federal Archives and Records Center, Denver, Colorado. The records created in relation to the operation of the Surveyor General's office are described first. Following these entries are the records of the General Land Office Special Agents, who were responsible for investigating disputed land claims, suspected fraud, and violations of public land laws. Thereafter, records created at the land offices are found under each land office, which are listed in alphabetical order. Described first is the correspondence sent and received by the land office. Thereafter, the bound volumes are arranged chronologically by the date of enactment of the land law under which the entries were made. The only exception to this are the tract books, which are described at the beginning. This is because virtually all the records relate to the tract books, although they have not been specifically singled out as "related records." Miscellaneous volumes not relating to a particular type of entry are listed last, and are arranged chronologically.

Related records held by the Denver Regional Archives Branch include tract and abstract books and land entry records similar to those described herein for Arizona, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Utah; correspondence of the Surveyors General for Colorado (1861-1934), New Mexico (1854-1917), Montana (1867-94) and Utah (1874-1915); and correspondence of the Supervisor of Surveys (1910-46).

Duplicate copies of many of the tract books and abstract books described in this inventory are held by the General Branch, Civil Archives Division, National Archives and Records Service, Washington, D.C. That division also holds the records of all land entries in Wyoming that were completed before July 1, 1908, and for entries that were patented after that date. Several of the series in this inventory cite where the land entry is listed in either the General Land Office's tract or patent books held by that division. In this inventory, those volumes are referred to as the General Land Office patent books or the General Land Office tract books.

RECORDS OF THE OFFICE OF THE SURVEYOR GENERAL OF WYOMING

1. HANDWRITTEN COPIES OF LETTERS SENT. 1870-92. 3 vols., 7 in., 18 cm. Volumes 2-4.

Arranged chronologically by date sent.

Most of this correspondence was sent to the Commissioner of the General Land Office and concerns the administrative activities of the Surveyor General's office. The records relate to budget appropriations; acquisition of supplies; appointments of personnel; approval of survey contracts, field notes, and plats; and the classification of mineral and coal lands. The volumes also include copies of the annual fiscal-year report sent to the Commissioner. Those reports give summaries of how appropriations were spent; descriptions of contracts issued and surveys completed; and statistical data on special surveys conducted on mineral lands, Indian lands, and military reservations.

Letters in the first volume of this series describe the opening of the Surveyor General's office and its early operation. It includes letters sent to the Territorial Governor requesting military escorts for surveying parties and letters sent to members of the House of Representatives answering requests for expedient surveys in their districts.

There is also a small volume of correspondence sent to deputy surveyors concerning the issuance of contracts and instructions for the execution of surveys.

Related records are described in entries 2, 3, and 4, "Copies of Letters Sent to the Commissioner of the General Land Office," "Copies of Letters Sent Concerning the Execution of Surveys," and "Copies of Miscellaneous Letters Sent," respectively.

2. COPIES OF LETTERS SENT TO THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE. 1884-1922. 23 vols., 4 ft., 1.2 m. Volumes 1-23.

Arranged in chronological order by date sent. Indexed by subject.

This series consists of letter press copies of correspondence sent by Wyoming's Surveyors General to the Commissioner of the General Land Office. The correspondence relates to the routine administration of the surveying office, which includes the appointment of personnel, budget estimates and requests for appropriations, and the preparation of the annual report of the Surveyor General to the Commissioner. Volume 1 includes a few copies of letters sent to local banks and other Federal agencies as well as to the General Land Office.

Other letters sent from the Surveyor General's office are described in entries 1, 3, and 4.

3. COPIES OF LETTERS SENT CONCERNING THE EXECUTION OF SURVEYS. 1890-1901. 1 vol., 2 in., 6 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged chronologically by date sent and indexed by subject.

This series consists of letter press copies of letters sent by the Surveyor General primarily to his deputy surveyors relating to supplemental instructions and orders for surveys. Included are lists of supplies needed, estimates of survey costs, and diagrams of areas where new survey lines are to be executed. Some of the material relates to surveys being conducted on the Fort Laramie Military Reservation and the Shoshone Indian Reservation. Also included in this series are miscellaneous copies of letters sent to the Commissioner regarding the status of pending survey contracts, orders for mineral surveys, statistical and narrative reports, and lists of office supplies held by the land office.

Related records are described in entries 1, 2, and 4.

4. COPIES OF MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS SENT. 1910-22. 30 vols., 13 ft., 4 m. Volumes 18-47.

Arranged chronologically by date sent. Indexed alphabetically by name of recipient of letter.

Most of this correspondence was sent to deputy surveyors, registers and receivers, officials of the office of the Supervisor of Surveys and other government agencies, and private citizens. The letters concern the execution of public surveys, requests for new surveys and resurveys, and special instructions for surveys conducted on land owned by the Forest Service and on land transferred to the State of Wyoming. Other correspondence relates to routine administrative matters such as personnel actions, budget and accounting reports, and the acquisition of supplies. There is also a small amount of correspondence sent to Frank Johnson, Supervisor of Surveys, concerning the reorganization of the office of the Surveyor General, which occurred in 1910.

Related records are described in entries 1, 2, and 3.

5. REGISTERS OF LETTERS RECEIVED FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE. 1867-1929. 3 vols., 7 in., 19 cm. Volumes 8-10.

Arranged by letter number. Letters 1-9171. Indexed alphabetically by subject.

These registers list the letter number assigned by the office of the Surveyor General, the date the letter was received, the initial of the Division of the General Land Office (see Glossary) that sent the letter, and a brief statement regarding the letter's content. Volumes 9 and 10 also occasionally record the response to the letter. The letters relate primarily to administrative matters, including the acquisition of supplies, budget appropriations, personnel actions, circular instructions, approval of contracts and plats, patents issued, and special proclamations.

The volumes are an index to the "Letters Received from the Commissioner of the General Land Office" described in the next entry.

6. LETTERS RECEIVED FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE. 1894, 1899-1908. 9 vols., 2 ft., 63 cm. Volumes 13 and 17-24.

Arranged chronologically by date received.

These letters pertain to administrative matters of the Surveyor General's office, staff, and deputy surveyors. Included are instructions to the Surveyors General for corrections of surveys and resurveys, amendments to the special instructions issued to deputy surveyors, and correspondence relating to the examination of survey plats and contracts. Some of the letters contain information on the survey of Yellowstone National Park and various military reservations transferred to the Department of the Interior under the provisions of an act of July 5, 1884 (23 Stat. 276). That act enabled the President to transfer abandoned land on military reservations to the Department of the Interior for disposition.

Also found in this series are copies of budget appropriations passed by Congress for the district of Wyoming, form letters from the Comptroller of the Treasury concerning surveyor general accounts, receipts for certificates of deposits, and miscellaneous lists of mineral patents issued on mining claims. Recorded on those lists are the name of the patentee, name of the claim, land office, mineral entry number, survey number, patent number, and date of patent.

The "Register of Letters Received from the Commissioner" described in entry 5 is an index to these letters.

7. REGISTER OF MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS RECEIVED. 1870-1918. 2 volumes, 5 in., 12 cm. Volumes 1 and 2.

Arranged by letter number assigned serially upon receipt. Letters 1-14,889. Indexed alphabetically by name of sender.

This register records the letter number assigned by the Surveyor General's office, the name and address of the sender, the date sent, and a summary of the letter's contents. Most of the letters are from settlers petitioning for surveys, individuals requesting employment, deputy surveyors needing clarification of special instructions, and other Surveyors General desiring copies of surveys and field notes. If the letter made a reference to a specific survey, that survey number is listed. Many of the later letters concern either the need for resurveys or complaints against executed resurveys.

8. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTIONS OF TOWNSHIPS. 1870-1901. 2 ft., 64 cm.

Arranged by legal description of the land.

This entry consists of 18" x 24" form sheets that give a brief description of the quality of the soil, timber, vegetation, and navigable streams and lakes found in certain townships in southern Wyoming. The documents describe whether the land is flat or mountainous, the texture of the soil, the amount of timber on the tract, if any, and the location of navigable streams and lakes.

9. TOWNSHIP SURVEY PLATS. 1869-1943. 1 ft., 37.4 cm.

Arranged by legal description of the land detailed by the plats. Township 12 North, Range 60 West through Township 32 North, Range 98 West, with gaps.

The township survey plat was prepared from the field notes in the Surveyor General's office in Cheyenne. Initially, three surveys plats were made. Two of those were sent to Washington, D.C. for approval by the General Land Office. Upon approval, one plat was kept by that office and the other was returned to the Surveyor General's office. The third plat was filed in the appropriate land office. The township survey plats described in this series are those which were received at the land office.

A plat typically details the topographical features of the land and shows the land entry status of each section within the township. The plats are annotated to show land entry and patent numbers, roads, railroads, trails, streams, lakes, and, on some plats, settlements and buildings. Withdrawals and cancellations of entries are also noted.

Each township plat also lists the name of the surveyor, the date of his contract, the total area surveyed, and the date span of the survey. The plat was signed and dated by the Surveyor General upon his approval.

Other survey plats described in this inventory include the "Mineral Survey Plats" and the "Miscellaneous Plats" described in entries 10 and 11, respectively.

10. MINERAL SURVEY PLATS. 1879-1922. 3 ft., 96 cm.

Arranged by survey number. Surveys 37-507, with gaps.

These plats were drawn in the Surveyor General's office from the original survey field notes. Information given normally includes the survey or lot number, name of claim and claimant, mineral district and county, name of surveyor, date of survey, area of claim, a certification of the value of improvements, and the date of the plat. The metes and bounds of the claim are given on the plat, and the location of shafts and buildings are noted. Most of the plats also have terrain features drawn in. The mineral survey plats are signed by the Surveyor General of Wyoming.

Related records include the "Mineral Entry Registers" of the various land offices described in this inventory, and the "Survey Plats" listed under entry 11.

11. MISCELLANEOUS PLATS. 1879-1922. 4 ft., 1.2 m.

Unarranged.

This series consists primarily of plats of township surveys, resurveys, and mineral surveys conducted on Wyoming lands. Most of the mineral survey plats fall within survey numbers 37-507, with gaps. There are also some printed and annotated plats of Wyoming townsites, townships, and military reservations. This includes plats of Fort Laramie, Fort Fetterman, Fort Fred Steele, and Fort Sanders military reservations. Other miscellaneous plats are of lands located within the Shoshone Irrigation Project, the North Platte Project, and the Crow Creek Forest Reserve. Most of the plats are printed on sheets approximately 17" x 20".

Other survey plats in this inventory are described in entry 9, "Township Survey Plats" and in entry 10, "Mineral Survey Plats."

12. GROUP SURVEY FILES. 1910-46. 7 ft., 2.2 m.

Arranged by survey number. Survey numbers 1-132 with some gaps.

Most of the documents found in a group survey file relate to the assignment and instructions issued for a surveying contract. The majority of records originate from the office of the Surveyor General of Wyoming or, after 1924, the office of the Supervisor of Surveys in Denver. The instructions give information relating to the selection of individuals for the surveying party, salary and supply costs, mode of transportation needed to execute the survey, and descriptions of the proper techniques for conducting the survey and submitting survey notes and sketch plats. There is also a small amount of correspondence between the Surveyor General and private citizens, companies, and state officials. This correspondence generally concerns the need for an original survey or resurvey to determine the legal boundaries of disputed lands.

13. LIST OF EMPLOYEES AND SALARIES PAID. 1906-14. 1 vol., 1 in., 3 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged chronologically by month of pay period. Indexed alphabetically by name of employee.

This volume records the salaries paid to employees of the office of the Surveyor General. Listed for each month are the name of the employee, an annotation of the days he worked during the month, the total number of days worked, the rate paid per day and per annum, and the total amount paid to the employee for the month. There is also a record of the employee's leave of absence, which lists the number of days absent for the month and a cumulative total for the year. A remarks section usually includes the type of leave taken and any changes in salary.

RECORDS OF GENERAL LAND OFFICE SPECIAL AGENTS

14. COPIES OF LETTERS, REPORTS, AND NOTICES SENT. 1890-1907. 45 vols., 4 ft., 1.2 m. Volumes 1-45.

Arranged in rough chronological order by date sent. Some of the volumes are indexed by name of recipient.

This series consists primarily of letter press copies of correspondence sent by special agents on assignment in California, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oklahoma, and Wyoming. The original letters

were sent to the Commissioner, registers and receivers, attorneys, and private citizens. The special agents were under the administration of Field Investigation Division Number 7, which was located in Cheyenne.

The records relate to the special agent's investigations of alleged fraudulent land entries. Included are copies of letters sent to citizens informing them of violations of land laws, replies to persons who have made complaints of suspected land fraud, copies of affidavits made by the special agent, weekly reports on investigative activities, and final reports of investigations. Some of the later volumes also contain a large number of the form "Report of Fraudulent Claim or Entry," which includes a brief history of the land in question, the evidence found in support of the fraudulent claim, and the action recommended by the special agent to correct the situation. Many of the cases involve fictitious or illegal entries, falsified final proofs, illegal fencing, and timber depredation and trespass.

RECORDS OF THE LAND OFFICES

BUFFALO LAND OFFICE

15. LETTERS RECEIVED FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE. 1934-46. 38 ft., 11.5 m.

Arranged chronologically by date received.

Most of these letters concern decisions made by the Commissioner relating to disputed land entries and mineral claims. The disputes usually involve questions of proof of purchase, proof of residence, or charges of fraudulently obtaining title to entries. Included are copies of reports of special agents relating to cases within their land district, instructions to Registers to issue final certificates, copies of cancellations of entries, and printed lists of approved oil and gas leases.

Other correspondence consists of instructions sent to the Register to inform land claimants of decisions made by the General Land Office, and of the time limit the claimant has to comply with the requirements ordered by the Commissioner.

Related records include "Copies of Letters, Reports, and Notices Sent" described in entry 14 and the "Commissioner's Letters" described in entry 16.

16. MISCELLANEOUS COMMISSIONER'S LETTERS RECEIVED. 1925-36. 7 in., 18 cm.

Arranged chronologically by date received.

Most of the letters received from the Commissioner are related to decisions made by the General Land Office in response to questions or requests of the Register and Receiver concerning routine administrative matters. (In many instances, a copy of the original letter sent by the land office official is attached to the letter received from the General Land Office.) The correspondence concerns the acquisition of supplies and equipment; appointments, transfers, and resignations of personnel; copies of travel vouchers and budget accounts; and directives concerning applications for entry on lands associated with some military posts. Also found in this series are several miscellaneous letters received from companies, attorneys, and private individuals; and a few printed circulars and copies of telegrams received.

Related records include "Letters Received from the Commissioner of the General Land Office" described in entry 15.

17. ENLARGED HOMESTEAD DESIGNATIONS. 1909-40. 1 ft., 31.2 cm.

Arranged in rough chronological order.

This series consists of listings sent by the Assistant Commissioner of the General Land Office to the Register and Receiver describing tracts of land eligible to be designated as enlarged homesteads as defined by the provisions of the act of February 19, 1909 (35 Stat. 639). This act allowed homesteaders to increase the size of a homestead to 320 acres. Each designation letter gives the legal description of the areas of land that had been made eligible for that status.

Other "Enlarged Homestead Designations" are described in entry 126.

18. STOCK RAISING DESIGNATIONS. 1925-40. 1 ft., 31.2 cm.

Arranged chronologically by date of designation.

The stock raising designations are orders from the Secretary of the Interior specifying areas of land as stock raising lands eligible for homesteading under the provisions of the act of December 29, 1916 (39 Stat. 862). This act enabled individuals to obtain 640 acres of grazing land that did not contain merchantable timber and was not suitable for irrigation. Although most of the stock raising designations were sent to the Register and Receiver of the land office from the General Land Office,

some were also received from the Director of the Geological Survey. Also included in this series are copies of letters sent by the Commissioner to the Secretary of the Interior recommending lands to be classified as stock raising land.

"Stock Raising Designations" filed at other land offices are described in entry 127.

BOUND VOLUMES

19. COMBINED ABSTRACT OF CASH ENTRIES AND OF COAL LAND SOLD. 1880-1908. 2 vols., 6 in., 14 cm. Volumes 1 and 2.

Arranged by certificate number. Cash certificates 1-2111. Coal cash certificates 1-89.

These volumes are the Register's monthly abstracts of cash entries made at the Buffalo Land Office. Information given includes the cash certificate number and date issued, the name and residence of the purchaser, the legal description and acreage of the entry, the price paid per acre and total purchase price, and a cross-reference to the General Land Office tract book in which the entry is recorded. A large volume of the entries are annotated as being timber and stone entries. The final certificate number is also occasionally listed.

The first volume of this series also records 89 abstracts of coal cash certificates issued. The same information as described above is listed for each entry, as well as the coal declaratory statement number and a column for comments. Recorded here are the dates payments are due, decisions of the Commissioner affecting the claim, and, occasionally, the date patented.

20. REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD ENTRIES. 1888-1908. 2 vols., 16 in., 14 cm. Volumes 1 and 2.

Arranged by application number. Applications 1-4374.

This register records the filing of applications for homestead land entries. Unless a declaratory statement had been made, this was the first step in the process of perfecting a homestead claim. Information recorded in the register includes the homestead application number and date issued, the legal description of the tract entered upon, the number of acres of the entry, the name and residence of the applicant, the fees and commissions paid, and remarks relating to the entry. Listed for some entries are the date patented, the final certificate number and date issued, and notations of cancellations or relinquishments.

Related records are found in the "Register of Homestead Final Certificates" described in entry 21.

21. REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD FINAL CERTIFICATES. 1888-1908. 1 vol., 3 in., 7 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by certificate number. Certificates 1-1611.

This volume was maintained by the Register of the land office to record the final certificates issued for entries filed under the Homestead Act of 1862 (12 Stat. 392). The final certificate was the document issued by the land office stating that the individual had met all the requirements of law and was entitled to a patent. The register contains the certificate number and date issued, the legal description of the land, the name and residence of the applicant, the original homestead application number, the fees and commissions paid, and the price paid per acre. Later entries usually list the date patented and name of the individual to whom the patent was issued.

Related records are found in the "Register of Homestead Entries" described in entry 20.

22. ABSTRACT OF DESERT LAND ENTRIES. 1897-1906. 1 vol., 2 in., 6 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by entry number. Entries 594-1945.

This volume is the Register's record of entries made at the Buffalo Land Office under the Desert Land Act of March 3, 1877 (19 Stat. 377). Information given includes the date of entry, entry number, name and residence of entryman, legal description of the land, the number of acres and price paid per acre, the total price paid, the amount of payment already received, the amount of payment due on making final proof, and where the entry is recorded in the General Land Office tract books.

Related records are the "Register of Desert Land Final Certificates" described in entry 23.

23. REGISTER OF DESERT LAND FINAL CERTIFICATES. 1888-1908. 2 vols., 3 in., 9 cm. Volumes 1 and 2.

Arranged by final certificate number. Certificates 1-853.

Information provided in this volume includes the final certificate number and date issued, name and residence of the filer, legal description

of the land, its price and quantity, the initial payment at \$.25 per acre, the final payment at \$1.00 per acre, the original declaration number, and the location (volume and page numbers) of the tract book entry in the General Land Office tract books. The date the patent was issued is also occasionally given.

This volume was discontinued in 1908 in favor of the serial register system.

Related records are listed in entry 22, "Abstract of Desert Land Entries."

24. RECORD OF PATENTS DELIVERED. 1888-1911. 1 vol. 3 in., 8 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged in rough chronological order by date issued.

This volume is a register of patents issued for approved land entries made at the Buffalo Land Office. Information recorded includes the number of the patent; date of issuance and name of patentee; where the entry was recorded in the General Land Office patent books; and to whom, when, and where the patent was sent. The type of land entry the patent was issued for is sometimes given.

Other "Records of Patents Delivered" at the Cheyenne, Evanston, and Lander land offices are described in entries 58, 102, and 122, respectively.

25. CONTEST DOCKET. 1908-09. 1 vol., 2 in., 6 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by contest case number. Cases 1032-1241. Indexed by the first letter of the last names of both parties involved in the contest.

The contest dockets record the actions filed in disputed land claims. Information given includes the contest number, the name of the parties involved, the date the affidavit of the contestee was filed, the type of land entry, the date of entry, legal description of the disputed land, and a summary of the proceedings. This includes the dates of notices issued, testimonies filed, parties notified, and decisions made. For some entries the names of the attorneys are given. Most of the contests recorded in this docket were later annotated as being closed cases.

Other "Contest Dockets" are described in entries 62 and 72.

CHEYENNE LAND OFFICE

26. REGISTER OF COMMISSIONER'S LETTERS RECEIVED. 1905-11. 1 vol., 1 in., 3 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by letter number assigned by the land office. Letters 9232-12312. Indexed alphabetically by either name of party the letter relates to or its subject content.

This volume records letters received from the Commissioner and other officials of the General Land Office. Listed are the number assigned by the land office, the initial of the General Land Office division that sent the letter (see glossary), the date received, a brief description of the letter's contents, and actions taken by the land office in response to the letter. Most actions concern notifying entrymen of decisions made by the General Land Office.

This volume is a partial index for the "Letters Received from the Commissioner of the General Land Office" described in entry 27.

27. LETTERS RECEIVED FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE. 1890-1946. 89 ft., 27.2 m.

Arranged chronologically by date letter was received.

Most of this correspondence was received from the Commissioner and other officials of the General Land Office in Washington, D.C. The letters include instructions to the Surveyor General concerning the operation and administration of his office, requests for additional information or evidence concerning land entries, corrections of surveys, questions of fraudulent claims and surveys, and opinions of the Commissioner on adverse and contested land entries. A large volume of the correspondence relates to routine administrative matters, including personnel supervision, budget appropriations, and the fiscal accounts for the office. Also included in this series are miscellaneous copies of General Land Office circulars, blueprints, plats, and telegrams.

The "Register of Commissioners' Letters Received" described in entry 26 provides a partial index to these letters.

28. LETTERS RECEIVED CONCERNING U.S. COMMISSIONERS ACTING IN LAND MATTERS. 1924-37. 6 in., 16.1 cm.

Arranged in rough chronological order by date received.

This is a small volume of correspondence which relates primarily to decisions made on hearings or investigations involving land entries and transactions. Much of the correspondence consists of brief comments from the Commissioner on entry approvals, cancellations, or need for proof of alleged improvements made on land.

Related records are the "Letters Received from the Commissioner of the General Land Office," and the "Commissioners' Letters Regarding Contest Cases" described in entries 27 and 29, respectively.

29. COMMISSIONER'S LETTERS REGARDING CONTEST CASES. 1925-35. 1 ft., 30 cm.

Arranged in chronological order by date received.

These letters were sent by the Assistant Commissioner of the General Land Office to the Register of the Cheyenne Land Office. The letters summarize decisions made by officials of the General Land Office concerning contested land cases that were appealed to the Commissioner. Information given includes the contest case title and number; a summary of the proceedings of the case, including decisions made previously by officials of the land office; and the final action decided by the General Land Office. Most of the contested cases involved allegations of abandonment, false proof of residence, failure to make improvements on the entry, and fraudulent entries made on mineral lands.

Related correspondence is described in entry 28, "Letters Received Concerning U.S. Commissioners Actions in Land Matters."

30. COAL LAND DECLARATORY STATEMENTS. 1901-06. 1 ft., 31.2 cm.

Arranged chronologically by date filed in the Register and Receiver's office.

In the sworn declaratory statement the applicant gives notice of his intention to purchase coal land and states that he has never previously acquired this type of land. Listed on the statement are the applicant's age, the legal description of the land, the name of the notary public who witnessed the oath, and the date of the statement. Usually attached to the statement are the receipt for the Register's and Receiver's fees charged to file the statement; the affidavits of two witnesses who can verify that the land has coal deposits on it, but no evidence of gold, silver, or copper veins; and the claimant's affidavit that the land is non-mineral in character. Some files also contain copies of the power of attorney and the claimant's declaration of intention to become a citizen.

Related records are described in entry 46, "Abstract of Coal Declaratory Statements," and entry 47, "Abstract of Coal Land Declaratory Statements on Lands Which Have Not Been Offered at Public Sale."

31. ANNOTATED MANUSCRIPT MAPS OF WYOMING OIL FIELDS. 1920. 21 items. 1 ft., 31 cm.

Arranged in alphabetical order by name of field.

Each of these maps outlines the boundaries of oil fields found within a specific township and range number. The following oil fields are shown: Big Muddy, Buffalo Basin, Drydome, Grass Creek, Greybull Field, Hamilton Dome, Hidden Dome, Iron Creek, Lake Creek, Lone Creek, Mahoney Dome, Mule Creek, Osage Poison Spider, Rock Creek, Salt Creek, Sheep Mountain, Spence Dome, Thorton, Torchlight Dome, and Worland Area.

BOUND VOLUMES

32. TRACT BOOKS. 16 vols. 3 ft., 80 cm. Volumes 1-16.

Arranged by legal description of the land.

These tract books record entries made primarily in Townships 12-57 North, Ranges 68-94 West, with gaps. Information recorded includes the legal description of the entry, name of entryman, date of sale or entry, certificate number, and to whom and when the patent was issued. Relinquishments, cancellations, and rejections are noted.

Other tract books for Wyoming are described in entries 65 and 75, which were recorded at the Douglas and Evanston land offices, respectively.

33. ABSTRACT OF CASH ENTRIES. 1872-1908. 3 vols., 6 in., 15 cm. Volumes 1-3.

Arranged by certificate of purchase number. Certificates 1-4094.

These volumes record the payment of cash for land entries. Listed are the date the land was sold, the cash certificate number, the name and residence of the purchaser, the legal description of the land, the number of acres purchased, price paid per acre, amount of money paid, and the amount of payment received in military land scrip, if any. Some of the entries also note where the entry is recorded in the General Land Office tract books.

Related records include the "Registers of Homestead Entries" described in entry 36.

34. REGISTER'S ABSTRACT OF LOCATIONS MADE UNDER MILITARY BOUNTY LAND WARRANTS. 1876-1890. 1 vol, 1 in., 2 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by the register and receiver number assigned by the land office. Register and receiver numbers 1-7.

This volume provides information on a small number of entries obtained through military bounty land warrants. Military bounty land warrants were issued to soldiers or their survivors for military service. Most warrants were transferrable and could be used to acquire a specified amount of land at any land office.

Information recorded in the abstract includes the entry number assigned by the Register and Receiver, the military land warrant number, the date of issue, to whom issued, the legal description and quantity of the land claimed, the date the individual moved onto the land, and name of the individual. It is also generally recorded whether the land was relinquished, or whether any correspondence from the Commissioner of the General Land Office relating to the claim had been received.

Related records are described in the "Receiver's Abstract of Locations Made Under Military Bounty Land Warrants" described in entry 35.

35. RECEIVER'S ABSTRACT OF LOCATIONS MADE UNDER MILITARY BOUNTY LAND WARRANTS. 1876-1898. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by the register's and receiver's number assigned by the land office. Register and receiver numbers 2-8.

This volume contains much the same information recorded in the "Register's Abstract of Locations Made Under Military Bounty Land Warrants" described in the previous entry. Included are the register and receiver number, the warrant number and date issued, the name of the claimant, the date the individual moved onto the land, and by whom located. Occasionally listed is the name of the nearest town.

Related records are the "Register's Abstract of Locations Made Under Military Bounty Land Warrants" described in entry 34.

36. REGISTERS OF HOMESTEAD ENTRIES. 1870-1908. 4 vol., 10 in., 27 cm. Volumes 1-4.

Arranged by application number. Applications 1-7887.

These volumes were maintained by the Register of the land office to record claims filed in accordance with the Homestead Act of 1862 (12 Stat. 392). The registers contain the number and date of the application; the legal description of the land; the number of acres entered upon; the name and residence of the applicant; the fees and commissions paid; and a remarks section, in which are noted cancellations and relinquishments. Some of the entries are also marked as being a soldier's homestead.

Related records are included in the registers of "Homestead Final Receipts" and "Homestead Final Certificates" described in entries 37 and 38, respectively.

37. REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD FINAL RECEIPTS. 1900-08. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by receipt number. Receipts 1241-2298.

This volume was maintained by the Receiver of the land office to record the commissions and administrative fees received for homestead activities. Included are the number of the receipt, date issued, legal description of the land entry, number of acres, name and residence of applicant, the number of the original application, and commissions paid. Also listed is the "price paid per acre." Since homestead entries were not paid for, this amount indicates the price the land would have sold for had it been a cash entry.

38. REGISTER OF FINAL HOMESTEAD CERTIFICATES. 1874-1902. 1 vol., 2 in., cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by final certificate number. Final Certificates 1-1546.

This volume was used to record the certificates issued by the land office to individuals to show they had completed the legal requirements for a patent. Recorded are the number of the certificate, the date issued, the legal description of the land, the number of acres of the entry, the name of the applicant and his residence, the original application number, and the administrative fees paid. There is also a column for remarks, which usually is annotated if the entry was cancelled or relinquished or if the entry was allowed by a special order of the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

The "Registers of Homestead Entries" described in entry 36 provide related information.

39. ABSTRACT OF AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE SCRIP. 1871-73. 1 vol., 1 in., 3 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by register's and receiver's number. Numbers 1-18.

This volume is the Register's monthly abstract of entries made using agricultural college scrip issued under the act of July 2, 1862 (12 Stat. 503), more commonly known as the Morrill Act. This act gave each state 30,000 acres of land for each of its Representatives and Senators in Congress for the purpose of endowing colleges of agricultural and mechanical arts. The abstract lists the register's and receiver's number, the scrip number, the date the scrip was issued, by which state, the legal description of the land claimed, the date of location, and by whom the land was located. Some of the entries also include the date the patent was issued.

40. REGISTER OF APPLICATIONS FOR MINERAL PATENTS. 1880-1908. 3 vols., 5 in., 12.5 cm. Volumes 1-3.

Arranged by application number. Applications 11-338. Volumes 1 and 2 are indexed alphabetically by name of applicant.

These volumes list the applications for mineral patents recorded at the Cheyenne Land Office. Information given includes the application number and date filed; the name and address of the applicant; the name of the mine and the county it was located in; the legal description of the land and number of acres; and a remarks section which usually listed the fees paid.

Volume 2 of this series contains mineral patent applications filed under the Settler's Relief Act of March 3, 1875.

Related records are described in entries 41 and 43, "Register of Mineral Entries" and "Register of Adverse Mining Claims," respectively.

41. REGISTER OF MINERAL ENTRIES. 1876-1908. 1 vol., 1 in., 3 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by claim number. Claims 1-309. Indexed alphabetically by name of mining claim.

This volume records mineral entries filed at the Cheyenne Land Office. Listed are the name of the claimant, the name of the mineral claim, the date purchased, the certificate receipt number, the embracing lot number, the legal description of the land and the number of acres it embraces, and

the price paid for the claim. The volume also has a remarks section that usually lists the receipt number, which corresponds to the "Receiver's Register of Receipts of Mineral Entries" described in entry 42. The remarks column also occasionally lists the post office address of the claimant.

42. RECEIVER'S REGISTER OF RECEIPTS FOR MINERAL ENTRIES. 1876-1900. 1 vol., 1 in., 3 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by receipt number. Receipts 1-108, with gaps.

This volume was maintained by the Receiver of the land office to record receipts issued for mineral entries made upon the public domain. Information given includes the name of the claimant and his claim; the mineral receipt number and date issued; the legal description and size of the claim; and the purchase price. Remarks concerning the entry usually note the mineral survey number or whether the claim was located on unsurveyed land. For some entries, the mineral application number is also given.

This volume records receipts issued for mineral entries originally filed in the "Register of Mineral Entries" described in entry 41.

43. REGISTER OF ADVERSE MINING CLAIMS. 1881-1904. 1 vol., 3 in., 6.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by adverse claim number. Claims 1-52. Indexed alphabetically by name of mining claim.

This register was maintained by the land office to record actions in cases of conflicting mineral claims. An adverse claim entry was made by one claimant against another to contest his prior claim. Information given includes the claim number and date of filing, the name and address of the adverse claimant, the name of the mine in question, the name of the applicant against whom the adverse claim is filed, the name of his mining claim and his application number, and the legal description of the land in controversy. There is also a remarks column that lists for some entries the date adverse action notices were sent to both parties, the date the certificate showing the commencement of the suit was received, and the fees paid on the claim.

44. REGISTER OF TIMBER-CULTURE ENTRIES. 1874-91. 2 vols., 4 in., 11 cm. Volumes 1-2.

Arranged by application number. Applications 1-2670.

Recorded in these volumes are land entries made under the provisions of the Timber-Culture Act of March 3, 1873 (17 Stat. 605). Listed are the number and date of the application, the legal description of the land, the number of acres of the tract, the name of applicant, the fees and commissions paid, and a remarks column that notes relinquishments and cancellations of entries.

Related information is recorded in the "Register of Timber-Culture Final Certificates" described in entry 45.

45. REGISTER OF TIMBER-CULTURE FINAL CERTIFICATES. 1891-1903. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by certificate number. Certificates 1-102.

This register records the timber culture final certificates that were issued after the entryman had fulfilled the requirements for receiving a patent to his claim. Each entry gives the number of the certificate, legal description of the tract entered, number of acres of land, name and residence of applicant, number of the original application, and the fees paid.

Related information is found in the "Register of Timber Culture Entries" described in entry 44.

46. ABSTRACT OF COAL LAND DECLARATORY STATEMENTS. 1881-1907. 1 vol., 3 in., 6.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by declaratory statement number. Statements 1-1867.

This monthly abstract was maintained by the Register to record declaratory statements made on portions of the public domain that had been designated as coal lands. Recorded are the declaratory statement number and date filed, the name of the entryman, date of settlement, and the legal description of the land. If the entry was cancelled, the date of cancellation is noted.

Related records are described in entries 47, 48, and 49, "Abstract of Coal Land Declaratory Statements on Lands Which Have Not Been Offered at Public Sale," "Register's Register of Coal Land Entries," and "Receiver's Register of Coal Land Receipts," respectively.

47. ABSTRACT OF COAL LAND DECLARATORY STATEMENTS ON LANDS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN OFFERED AT PUBLIC SALE. 1885. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by statement number. Statements 133-145.

This volume contains only eleven coal land declaratory statements. Information given includes the statement number, date of settlement, name of entryman, and legal description of the land. The fees paid on the entry are usually listed in the "remarks" column.

Related records are described in entries 46, 48, and 49.

48. REGISTER'S REGISTER OF COAL LAND ENTRIES. 1883-1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 5.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by receipt number. Receipts 8-141.

This volume records coal land entries filed at the Cheyenne Land Office. Listed are the receipt number and date filed; the name and residence of purchaser; the legal description of the tract entered upon; the number of acres purchased and price paid per acre; the amount of cash payment; and the amount of payment received in military land scrip, if applicable. Occasionally given are a cross-reference to the General Land Office tract book in which the entry is recorded, and the date the patent was received at the Cheyenne Land Office.

49. RECEIVER'S REGISTER OF COAL LAND RECEIPTS. 1883-1900. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by receipt number. Receipts 8-93.

This register records the payment of coal land entries registered at the Cheyenne Land Office. Recorded are the receipt number and date filed, the name and residence of the purchaser, the price paid per acre, the amount of cash payment received, the amount of payment received in military scrip, and, infrequently, the date the patent was received at the land office.

Related information is found in the "Register of Coal Land Entries" described in entry 48.

50. REGISTER'S ABSTRACT OF DESERT LAND ENTRIES. 1877-1908. 6 vols., 8 in., 20 cm. Volumes 1-6.

Arranged by entry number. Entries 1-4973.

This volume is the Register's monthly abstract of desert land entries. Recorded are the desert land entry number; the name and residence of the entryman; the legal description of the land and number of acres of the tract; the price per acre and purchase price; the amount of payment already received and the amount due upon making final proof for the entry; and, for some entries, where the entry is recorded in the General Land Office tract books.

Related information is given in entries 51, 52, 53, and 54.

51. RECEIVER'S ABSTRACT OF DESERT LAND ENTRIES. 1884-93. 3 vols., 3 in., 7 cm. Volumes 1-3.

Arranged by application number. Applications 1326-3777.

This volume is the Receiver's monthly abstract of desert land entries. Information recorded includes the date entry was made, the application number, the name and residence of the entryman, the legal description of the land, the quantity of land and its price per acre, the total purchase price and amount already received, and the amount of payment due on making final proof for entry. Cancellations and relinquishments of entries are usually noted.

Related records are found in entries 50, 52, 53, and 54.

52. LIST OF DESERT LAND ENTRIES TO BE IRRIGATED BY PRIVATE IRRIGATION COMPANIES. 1913-24. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by number assigned by the Register. Indexed alphabetically by name of irrigation company.

This entry lists by the name of the private irrigation company the desert land entries claiming water rights from that company. Information given includes the desert land entry number, the number of the annual proof or final proof, the amount of the expenditure for stock in the irrigation company, the number of shares owned in the company, and whether the entry fell under a water contract. Attached to most entries are related letter press copies of reports prepared by an agent of the General Land Office. The report normally contains information on the irrigation company's history, organization, resources, and liabilities.

Related information is given in the records described in entries 50, 51, 53, and 54.

53. RECEIVER'S REGISTER OF DESERT LAND FINAL RECEIPTS. 1879-88. 1 vol., 2 in., 4.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by final receipt number. Final receipts 1-980.

This volume was maintained by the Receiver of the land office to record cash receipts for desert land entries. Information given is the final receipt number and the date issued, the name and residence of the entryman, the legal description of the land, the quantity of land purchased, the original payment received at \$.25 per acre, the final payment at \$1.00 per acre, and the number of the original declaration statement.

Related records include the "Abstracts of Desert Land Entries" described in entries 50 and 51.

54. REGISTER OF FINAL CERTIFICATES FOR DESERT LAND ENTRIES. 1879-1908. 3 vols., 5 in., 13 cm. Volumes 1-3.

Arranged by final certificate number. Certificates 2-1708.

These volumes are registers of desert land certificates that were issued to the entryman upon completion of the legal requirements as defined by the Desert Land Act. Information provided includes the final certificate number and date issued, the name and residence of the entryman, the legal description of the land, its price and quantity, the date of initial payment at \$.25 per acre, the final payment at \$1.00 per acre, the original declaration number, and a cross-reference to the General Land Office tract book in which the entry is recorded.

Related records include the "Abstracts of Desert Land Entries" described in entries 50 and 51.

55. REGISTER OF STONE LAND STATEMENTS. 1892-1908. 1 vol., 1 in., 3 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by statement number. Statements 1-501. Indexed by name of applicant.

This volume records land entries filed under the provisions of the act of June 3, 1878 (20 Stat. 89). Listed are the date filed, the statement number, the name and address of entryman, the legal description of land, the size of the entry, the purchase price, and a section for remarks.

Information found in the remarks column includes cancellations, relinquishments, the dates notices of entries were published in local newspapers, and whether cash was used to pay for the land.

56. REGISTER OF FOREST LIEU SELECTIONS. 1899-1908. 1 vol., 1 in., 1.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by lieu selection number. Numbers 1-153.

Lieu selections usually occurred when the government withdrew claimed or settled land from the public domain and the affected entrymen were permitted to select other land for compensation. This register was maintained by the land office to record lieu selections resulting from the creation of national forests. Information given includes the name and address of the applicant, the lieu selection number, the legal description and number of acres of the land selected, and remarks relating to the selection. The remarks include the name of the forest reserve in which the original entry was located and, occasionally, its legal description.

57. COMBINED MONTHLY ABSTRACT OF DECLARATORY STATEMENTS FILED ON LANDS NOT OFFERED AT PUBLIC SALE AND OF RESERVOIR AND RECLAMATION STATEMENTS. 1889-1907. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by statement number. Declaratory statements 4951-5804. Reservoir and reclamation statements 1-611.

The first part of this register abstracts declaratory statements filed for land that was not offered for public sale. Recorded are the statement number and date filed, the date of actual settlement, the name of the applicant, the legal description of the entry, and notations of cancellations and relinquishments.

The second part of this volume was used to record entries under the Reservoir Site Act of January 12, 1897 (29 Stat. 484). The information provided includes the number and date the statement was filed, the name of the entryman, a legal description of the land, and a remarks section, which usually shows that the entry was cancelled either by relinquishment or by the authority of the Commissioner.

58. RECORD OF PATENTS DELIVERED. 1878-1908. 1 vol., 3 in., 8 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged chronologically by date of patent. Indexed alphabetically by name of entryman.

This is a typical patent register, which lists the certificate number; name of patentee; date of patent; citation of the General Land Office patent book in which the patent is recorded; and to whom, when, and where the patent was sent. Page two of the volume also lists eight miscellaneous patents that were received at the Cheyenne Land Office between 1876 and 1883.

Other "Records of Patents Delivered" are found in entries 24, 102, and 122.

59. REGISTER OF APPLICATIONS TO CUT TIMBER ON THE PUBLIC DOMAIN. 1891-1907. 1 vol., 1 in., 3.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by application number. Applications 31-58, with gaps.

This volume records the actions taken on applications and permits issued under the act of March 3, 1881 (21 Stat. 511), which extended the privileges of the Timber Cutting Act for Wyoming residents. This enabled an individual legally to cut timber on public lands if used for farming, mining, manufacturing, or domestic purposes. Listed for each applicant is a record of all activities relating to his application. Information given is the property description, the county in which the land is located, the date the application was filed, and handwritten summaries of various actions taken. Those include the dates the application was transferred to the General Land Office, the actions taken by those officials, and the dates these decisions were received by the land office and the applicant was notified. If the permit was approved, it was signed by the applicant and sent to the General Land Office. Summaries of correspondence among the applicant, land office, and General Land Office are also recorded.

60. RECORD OF CANCELLED ENTRIES. 1902-07. 1 vol., 1 in., 3 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged chronologically by date of cancellation.

This volume records the cancellations of all types of land entries in Laramie, Albany, Carbon, Sweetwater, and Fremont counties from 1902 to 1907. Information given includes the entry number and type, the date the original entry was made, the legal description and number of acres of the land involved, the name of the entryman, the date of cancellation, and how the entry was cancelled. The cancellations also include state selection lists 484-492, which were cancelled in 1907.

61. RECORD OF MONIES PAID OR RECEIVED FOR NEWSPAPER NOTICES. 1904-05. 1 vol., 1 in., 2.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged chronologically by date the payment was recorded by the Register.

This volume records the payment made by an entryman to publish his notice of intent to make final proof on the public domain. Information given includes the name of the applicant, the name of the newspaper and the date the newspaper published the applicant's notice, the date the payment was received, and the amount of payment received.

Related records are described in entry 62, "Record of Published Notices for Final Proof."

62. RECORD OF PUBLISHED NOTICES FOR FINAL PROOF. 1921-25. 1 vol., 2 in., 6 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged alphabetically by name of newspaper. Indexed by name of newspaper.

This volume was used by the land office officials to verify that applicants had published notices in local newspapers for making final proof on land entries. Information recorded is the name of the entryman, his land entry certificate number, and the date the notice was printed in the newspaper.

Related records are described in entry 61, "Record of Monies Paid or Received for Newspaper Notices."

63. LAND ENTRY CONTEST DOCKETS. 1907-18. 2 vols. 5 in., 11.5 cm. Volumes 1 and 2.

Arranged by case number. Cases 1-1781.

These volumes were maintained by the Register to record activities relating to contested land entries. The information includes the contest case number, the names of the involved parties, the kind of land entry being disputed, the land entry number and date of the contestee's entry, the legal description of the disputed tract, and a summary of all proceedings relating to the case.

Other "Contest Dockets" are described in entries 25 and 72.

64 . LISTS OF LAND GRANTED TO THE STATE OF WYOMING. 1892-98. 1 vol., 2 in., 6 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by type of institution that received the grant, and thereunder by selection list number.

This volume records the legal description of lands granted to Wyoming to be used to benefit agricultural colleges; charitable, educational, penal, and reformatory institutions; and "poor farmers." Recorded are 7 lists for agricultural colleges; 12 lists for charitable, penal, and reformatory institutions; 112 lists for indemnity schools; and 1 list for poor farmers, which includes only 4 land entries. Information given on each selection list includes the legal description of the tract or tracts of land, the number of acres it encompasses, the date the land was granted to Wyoming, and, usually, the citation of the act that authorized the grants.

This volume also includes 43 selection lists that were designated to Wyoming as state desert land. Only the legal description and number of acres of the land are recorded. No reference is given to the use of this land.

Related records are included in the "Abstract of Land Selected by the State of Wyoming" described in entry 71.

DOUGLAS LAND OFFICE

BOUND VOLUMES

65. TRACT BOOKS. 4 vols. 7 in., 18 cm. Volumes 1 through 4.

Arranged by township and range numbers. The four volumes of tract books in this series record entries made on land falling within Townships 29 through 36 North and Ranges 71 through 89 West. There are some gaps within this area.

The tract book records the legal description of the land filed on, acreage of the claim, rate per acre and total purchase price if a cash purchase, the name of the purchaser, the date of sale, certificate number, and remarks relating to the entry. The remarks include such information as to whom the entry was patented, the type of entry, the date of patent, and where recorded. This information is not provided for all entries.

Other tract books are described in entries 32 and 75.

66. REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD ENTRIES. 1890-1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 5.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by application number. Applications 1-3588.

This is a typical homestead register, which records the application number and the date filed; the legal description and quantity of the land entered upon; the name and residence of the applicant; and the fees and commissions paid. There is also a remarks section that lists for most entries the date the final certificate was issued, or the date an entry was cancelled or relinquished, if applicable.

Related information is found in entry 67, "Register of Homestead Final Certificates."

67. REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD FINAL CERTIFICATES. 1890-1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged numerically by certificate number. Certificates 1-1034.

This register contains much the same information as the "Register of Homestead Final Certificates" described in entries 20 and 32. Listed are the certificate number and the date issued, the legal description of the tract entered, the quantity of land, the name and residence of applicant, the number of the original application, the commissions charged, and the price paid per acre if the land has been sold as a cash entry. Many entries are annotated with the patent number and the date the patent was issued.

Related material is found in the "Register of Homestead Entries" described in entry 66.

68. REGISTER OF TIMBER-CULTURE ENTRIES. 1890-1904. 1 vol., 2 in., 5.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by application number. Applications 1-16 and 1-31.

The first part of this register records entries 1-16 filed under the Timber Culture Act of March 3, 1873 (17 Stat. 605). The information provided includes the application number and date filed, the legal description of the land, the name and residence of the entryman, the fees and commissions paid, and notations of cancellations or relinquishments of entries.

The second part of this register records applications filed under the Timber Culture Act of March 3, 1901. It includes applications 1-31, which

were recorded between 1901 and 1904. The same information is given for these entries as those described above. Usually also listed is the date final proof was made, if applicable.

69. ABSTRACT OF DESERT LAND ENTRIES. 1891-1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 6 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by certificate numbers. Certificates 1-1451.

This abstract records the desert land certificate number and the date filed; the name and residence of the entryman; the legal description of the tract entered upon; its acreage and price per acre; the total purchase price; and the amount of payment already made and the amount due upon making final proof. Cancellations and relinquishments of entries are usually noted.

Related records are found in entry 70, "Register of Desert Land Final Certificates."

70. REGISTER OF DESERT LAND FINAL CERTIFICATES. 1890-1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 4 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by final certificate number. Certificates 1-397.

Included in this volume are the final receipt number and the date issued, the name and residence of the entryman, the legal description of the tract, the number of acres of the entry, the price per acre and the purchase price; the amount the entryman paid at a cost of \$.25 per acre and the final payment at \$1.00 per acre, and the original desert land declaration number. Later entries also list the date the entry was patented.

The "Abstract of Desert Land Entries" described in entry 69 has related information.

71. REGISTER'S ABSTRACT OF LAND SELECTED BY THE STATE OF WYOMING. 1895-1902. 1 vol., 2 in., 5.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged chronologically by date land was obtained.

This volume records land selected by Wyoming state officials for withdrawal under the provisions of several legislative acts designed to obtain land for the benefit of the state. Most of the land withdrawn was for charitable, educational, penal, and reformatory institutions. This includes the Soldiers and Sailor's Home, the State Law Library, the State

School for the Deaf, Dumb, and Blind, the State Agricultural College, and various indemnity school selections. Listed for each selection are the date the land was obtained, the land selection list number, the way the land was to be utilized, and the legal description and size of the tract. There are also a few state lieu land selections listed in the volume.

Related records are included in the "Lists of Land Granted to the State of Wyoming" described in entry 64.

72. CONTEST DOCKETS. 1911-23. 4 vols., 11 in., 27 cm. Volumes 1-4.

Arranged by contest case number. Cases 9-752; 1800-2700; 3200-3760. Volume 3 is indexed alphabetically by name of entryman.

These volumes record the activities relating to disputed land claims. Information given includes the contest case title and case number, the names and addresses of the attorneys involved (if applicable), the type and number of the entry, entry date, the legal description of the disputed land, and a chronological listing of proceedings pertaining to the case. Those include allegations of abandonment, non-improvements, non-residence, and false proofs of military service. The dates that answers to the allegations were filed are also listed, as well as decisions made by the General Land Office concerning the entry. Most of the entries are annotated as being closed cases.

Other "Contest Dockets" filed at the Buffalo and Cheyenne land offices are described in entries 25 and 63, respectively.

EVANSTON LAND OFFICE

73. REGISTER OF LETTERS RECEIVED FROM THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE. 1905-41. 1 vol., 2 in., 6 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by letter number, which was assigned serially upon receipt of letter. Letters 3756-7545, 1-1775. Indexed alphabetically by name of individual the letter related to.

Most of these letters were received by the Register from officials of the General Land Office and concern a particular claim of an entryman. Recorded are the date the letter was received and its assigned number, the name of the party the letter concerns, and a brief summary of the letter's contents. The summaries relate to the suspension of entries, need for better proof of improvements made on the land, rejections of an entryman's appeal concerning his claim, the classification of lands as coal lands, and decisions made concerning corrections of entries.

Related records are found in the "Letters Received from the Commissioner of the General Land Office" described in entry 74.

74. LETTERS RECEIVED FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE. 1908-12, 1915-20, 1922-23, 1925, 1937. 3 ft., 96 cm.

Arranged chronologically by date received.

These letters concern routine administrative matters, including the appointment of personnel, fiscal appropriations, office procedures, and general instructions concerning particular land entry cases. Also found within this series are copies of executive orders withdrawing land from the public domain, notices of land opening for entry and settlement, maps of national forests and land located within their boundaries that had been restored as public domain, and recommendations made by the U.S. Geological Survey designating land eligible for entry under the provisions of the Enlarged Homestead Act. There is also a small amount of correspondence relating to the establishment of the Teton National Forest.

The "Register of Letters Received From the General Land Office" described in entry 72 is an index to these letters.

BOUND VOLUMES

75. TRACT BOOKS. 2 vol., 4 in., 10 cm. Volumes 1 and 2.

Arranged by legal description of the land.

These are typical tract books, which list the legal description of the land, the size of the entry, the price paid per acre and purchase price, the name of the entryman, the date of the sale, and the receipt number. The books cover Townships 52 North through 56 North of Range 103 West and Township 32 North of Ranges 108-111 West, but very few entries are recorded.

76. INDEX TO CASH ENTRIES. 1879-1908. 1 vol., 3 in., 7 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged alphabetically by first letter of entryman's surname.

This volume is an index to land entries that were acquired by cash sales. Listed are the number of the cash entry, the name and residence of the entryman, and the date of the cash sale.

Additional information on entries listed in this volume is found in entries 78 and 79, "Abstract of Cash Entries," and "Receiver's Register of Cash Sales," respectively.

77. INDEX TO COAL CASH SALES. 1882-1908. 1 vol., 1 in., 1.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged alphabetically by first letter of last name of purchaser.

The index lists the cash receipt number, the date of the receipt, and the name and residence of the purchaser. Usually annotated below the purchaser's name is the legal description of the coal land.

This volume provides a partial index for the "Abstract of Coal Cash Entries" described in entry 78 and the "Receiver's Register of Coal Cash Sales" described in entry 79.

78. COMBINED ABSTRACT OF CASH ENTRIES AND COAL CASH ENTRIES. 1879-1908. 2 vol., 4 in., 10 cm. Volumes 1 and 2.

Arranged by certificate number. Cash certificates 1-642. Coal Cash Certificates 1-238.

Both of these volumes provide abstracts of regular cash entries and coal cash entries filed at the Evanston Land Office. The first part of Volume 1 records information relating to the issuance of regular cash certificates 1-518 between 1879 and 1905. Recorded are the certificate number and date sold; the name and address of the purchaser; the legal description of the land and the number of acres purchased; the price paid per acre and the total price; and, occasionally, where the patent is recorded in the General Land Office patent books. The second part of Volume 1 records the same information for coal land certificates 1-221, which were issued between 1882 and 1906.

The first section of Volume 2 is a continuation of the abstract of regular cash entries described in Volume 1. It records the same information for certificates 519 through 642 issued between 1905 and 1909. The second part of Volume 2 abstracts cash coal land certificates 218-238 issued between 1906 and 1908.

Related records are found in entries 76, 77, and 79.

79. RECEIVER'S COMBINED REGISTER OF CASH SALES AND OF COAL CASH SALES. 1879-1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by receipt number. Cash Sales Receipts 1-642. Coal Cash Sales Receipts 30-238.

This volume is a register of receipts issued to entrymen for payments received in cash sales. The first part of this register records information on non-coal land entries obtained by cash sales. Listed are the number and date of the cash receipt, the name and residence of the purchaser, the legal description of the tract purchased, the number of acres purchased, and the price per acre and amount paid.

This same information is recorded in the second section of the register for coal land entries filed under the Act of July 13, 1887. Many of the later entries also show the date the patent was issued and, less frequently, the number of the coal declaration statement.

Related records are found in entry 78, "Combined Abstract of Cash Entries and Coal Cash Entries," and the "Indexes" described in entries 76 and 77.

80. INDEX TO LAND ENTRYMEN. 1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 4 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged alphabetically by name of entryman.

This is a typical index, which lists the name and address of the entryman, the type of land entry, and the final certificate number.

81. INDEX TO HOMESTEAD ENTRIES. 1878-1908. 1 vol., 3 in., 8.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged alphabetically by first letter of entryman's last name.

This volume lists the homestead entry number, the date issued, and the name and residence of the entryman. The date the final certificate was issued is sometimes also given. The volume is an index to the "Register of Homestead Entries" described in entry 82.

82. REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD ENTRIES. 1878-1902. 1 vol., 2 in., 6 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by application number. Applications 1-1841.

This homestead register contains the same information as the volumes described in entry 36. Recorded are the number and date of the application, the legal description of the tract entered, its acreage, the name and residence of the applicant, the fees and commissions paid, and miscellaneous remarks such as the date the homestead was patented or the final entry was made. Cancellations and relinquishments of entries are also noted.

Related records are described in entries 80, 83, 84, and 85.

83. REGISTER'S REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD ENTRY RECEIPTS. 1878-1908. 2 vol., 4 ft., 10 cm. Volumes 1 and 2.

Arranged by receipt number. Receipts 1-3180.

This is a typical register of homestead entry receipts maintained by the Register of the land office. Listed are the receipt number and date issued; name and residence of the entryman; legal description of the tract entered; the number of acres; and the fees and commissions paid. Remarks for some entries include the final proof certificate number and the date issued, or the date the entry was relinquished or cancelled.

Related records are found in entries 80, 82, 84, and 85.

84. RECEIVER'S REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD ENTRY RECEIPTS. 1902-08. 1 vol., 2 in., 6 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by receipt number. Receipts 1842-3180.

This is a typical register that records money received and receipts issued by the Receiver for homestead applications. Information given includes the date and number of the homestead receipt; the name and residence of the entryman; the legal description and acreage of the tract; the fees and commissions; and the cost per acre if the land had been sold as a cash entry. It is sometimes noted whether the entry was patented or cancelled.

Related records are described in entries 80, 82, 83, and 85.

85. INDEX TO HOMESTEAD FINAL CERTIFICATES. 1878-1908. 1 vol., 1/2 in., 1 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged alphabetically by first letter of entryman's surname.

This index lists the homestead certificate number, the date issued, and the name and address of the entryman.

This volume indexes the "Register of Homestead Final Certificates" described in entry 86.

86. REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD FINAL CERTIFICATES. 1878-1908. 2 vol., 4 in., 11 cm. Volumes 1 and 2.

Arranged by certificate number. Certificates 1-1477.

The register records the final homestead certificate number and the date issued, the description of the tract entered, the quantity of land obtained, the name and residence of the applicant, the original homestead application number, and the commissions and administrative fees paid. There are also listed for some entries the date the patent was received in the land office, the date the patent was sent to the entryman, when the new proofs were submitted, and the date of suspensions or relinquishments, if applicable. A large volume of the later entries are annotated "patented," but the date the patent was issued is not recorded.

The volume described in entry 85 is the index to this register.

87. REGISTER OF APPLICATIONS FOR MINERAL PATENTS. 1882-1907. 1 vol., 2 in., 4 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by application number. Applications 1-40.

This volume records the application number and date filed, the name and address of the applicant, the name of the mine, the mining district the claim is located in, the legal description and size of the claim, and remarks relating to the claim. These include, if applicable, the date the claim was patented, the mineral survey number, and the final certificate number.

For some entries, the name of the applicant is a mining company. In those instances, several different mines may be listed on one application.

Related records include the "Register of Mineral Land Entries" described in entry 88.

88. REGISTER OF MINERAL LAND ENTRIES. 1882-1907. 1 Volume, 2 in., 5 cm, Volume 1.

Arranged by mineral entry number. Mineral entries 1-33.

Recorded in this register are the name of the claimant and his claim, the entry number and date issued, the legal description and size of the claim, and the purchase price. For some entries, the embracing lot number is also given. There is also a remarks section that usually lists the mineral patent number, the date it was issued, and the date the patent was received at the land office.

Related records are described in entry 87, "Register of Applications for Mineral Patents."

89. COMBINED REGISTER OF TIMBER-CULTURE ENTRIES AND FOREST LIEU SELECTIONS. 1881-1900. 1 vol., 1 in., 3.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by type of application and thereunder by application number. Timber-Culture Applications 1-230. Forest Lieu Applications 1-5.

The first section of this volume records timber culture entries filed under the provisions of the Timber Culture Act of March 3, 1873 (18 Stat. 454) at the Evanston Land Office. Listed are the number of the application and date issued, the legal description and acreage of the tract entered, the name and residence of the applicant, and the fees and commissions paid. The majority of the timber culture entries recorded in this register were relinquished.

The second part of this volume was used by the land office to record selections of public domain made in compensation for lands lost elsewhere by an individual, generally as a result of incorporation into a national forest. Information given includes the number and date of the selection, the legal description and number of acres of the tract claimed, and the name and residence of the applicant.

90. INDEX TO COAL LAND DECLARATORY STATEMENTS. 1892-1907. 1 vol., 1/2 in., 1 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged alphabetically by entryman's last name. Statements 1-1493.

This is a typical index that lists the declaratory statement number, the name and residence of the declarant, and whether the claim had been approved or cancelled. The majority of the entries were cancelled or relinquished. The volume provides a partial index to the "Abstract of Coal Declaratory Statements" included in entry 91.

91. COMBINED ABSTRACT OF COAL DECLARATORY AND RESERVOIR DECLARATORY STATEMENTS. 1887-1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 6 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by statement number. Coal Declaratory Statements 350-1501. Reservoir Declaratory Statements 1-11.

The first part of this volume records the coal declaratory statement and the date filed, the date of settlement, the name of the declarant, the legal description of his entry, and if applicable, the date of relinquishment or cancellation.

The second part of the volume lists the same information for eleven reservoir declaratory statements filed in 1899.

Related information is given in entry 90, "Index to Coal Land Declaratory Statements."

92. COMBINED ABSTRACT OF DECLARATORY AND COAL LAND DECLARATORY STATEMENTS FILED ON LANDS WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN OFFERED AT PUBLIC SALE. 1877-92. 2 vols., 4 in., 10 cm. Volumes 1 and 2.

Arranged by type of declaratory statement and thereunder by statement number. Homestead declaratory statements 1-451. Coal land declaratory statements 1-8; 452-688.

Recorded for each declaratory statement are the statement number and date filed, the name of entryman and date of settlement, the legal description of the land, and a remarks column. Occasionally listed in this column are notices of cancellations and relinquishments.

93. REGISTER'S COMBINED ABSTRACT OF DESERT LAND ENTRIES AND DESERT LAND YEARLY PROOFS. 1877-97. 2 vols., 3 in., 8 cm. Volumes 1-2.

Arranged by desert land entry number. Entries 1-715.

This volume abstracts desert land entries filed at the Evanston Land Office, and records the yearly proofs made on some of those entries. Under the provisions of the Desert Land Act, an entryman had three years after filing his original declaration to make improvements to reclaim the land. Proofs showing the progress of those improvements normally were filed annually at the land office.

Information given in the registers includes the desert land entry number; the name and residence of the entryman; the legal description and size of the tract; the price per acre and total price; and the amount of payment due on making final proof for entry. For desert land entries 596-

698, there is also a description of what yearly proofs have been made on the property.

The "Receiver's Abstract of Desert Land Entries" described in entry 94 gives related information.

94. RECEIVER'S ABSTRACT OF DESERT LAND ENTRIES. 1886-1908. 2 vols., 3 in., 8 cm. Volumes 1 and 2.

Arranged by entry certificate number. Certificates 336 - 1779.

The Receiver's monthly abstract records the desert land certificate number and date issued, name and residence of entryman, the legal description and number of acres of the claim, price per acre and total price, and the amount of payment already received and the amount due on making final proof. Most approved entries also list the final desert land certificate number and its date of issue.

Related records are included in entries 93, 96, 98, and 100.

95. INDEX TO DESERT LAND ENTRIES. 1877-1908. 1 vol., 1 in., 2 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged alphabetically by first letter of entryman's surname.

This is a typical index, which lists the final receipt number, the original entry number, and the name and address of the entryman. The volume provides an index to the "Register of Desert Land Entries" described in entry 96.

96. REGISTER OF DESERT LAND ENTRIES. 1897-1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 6 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by entry number. Entries 708-1779.

This is a typical desert land register, which lists the certificate number and date issued, the name and residence of the entryman, the legal description and acreage of the tract entered, the cost per acre and total price, the amount of payment received, and the amount of payment due on making final proof. A large number of the entries are annotated with the date the patent or final certificate was issued.

Related records are described in entries 94, 95, 98, and 100.

97. COMBINED RECORD OF PROOFS TAKEN FOR DESERT LAND ENTRIES AND OF FINAL PROOF OFFERED ON APPLICATION TO PURCHASE GRAZING LANDS. 1906-08. 1 vol., 2 in., 6 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by date proof was recorded. Indexed alphabetically by name of entryman.

The first part of the volume provides a summary of actions recorded relating to the issuance of the final certificate for the desert land entry. A typical entry consists of a handwritten paragraph that gives the name of entryman, the desert entry number, the legal description of the entry, the dates the entryman made final proof or obtained a final water certificate permit from the State Engineer of Wyoming, and the date this information was transmitted to the General Land Office in Washington, DC.

The second part of this volume records much of the same information concerning final proofs filed on a small number of applications to purchase grazing lands. Entries that were cancelled are crossed out in red and annotated with the date of cancellation.

Related records are found in entry 93, "Combined Abstract of Desert Land Entries and Record of Desert Land Yearly Proofs."

98. REGISTER OF DESERT LAND FINAL RECEIPTS. 1880-1905. 1 vol., 2 in., 4 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by final receipt number. Receipts 1-619.

This register records receipts that were issued to entryman for final payments in desert land entries. Information given includes the final receipt number and the date issued, the name and residence of the entryman, the legal description and number of acres of the tract entered, the price per acre and total price, the amount of money paid at \$.25 per acre, the amount of the final payment at \$1.00 per acre, and the number of the original declaration.

Related records are described in entries 94, 96, and 100.

99. INDEX TO DESERT LAND FINAL CERTIFICATES. 1880-1908. 1 vol., 1/2 in., 1 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged alphabetically by initial letter of applicants' last name.

This volume is an index to the "Register of Desert Land Final Certificates" described in entry 100. Listed are the original entry

receipt number, the date the final certificate was issued, and the name and address of the entryman.

100. REGISTER OF DESERT LAND FINAL CERTIFICATES. 1880-1908. 2 vol., 3 in., 9 cm. Volumes 1 and 2.

Arranged by final certificate number. Certificates 1-869.

This volume is a register of desert land final certificates issued at the Evanston Land Office between 1880 and 1908. It contains the same type of information as recorded in the "Registers of Desert Land Final Certificates" described in previous entries.

Related records are included in entries 94, 96, 98, and 100.

101. REGISTER OF CANCELLED OR RELINQUISHED HOMESTEAD AND DESERT LAND ENTRIES. 1901. 1 vol., 1 in., 2 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged chronologically by date of cancellation.

This volume lists seventeen land entries that were cancelled or relinquished. Information recorded is the number and date of original entry, the name of the entryman, the date and reason for the cancellation or relinquishment, the legal description and number of areas of the tract entered, and the name of the county in which the land is located.

102. RECORD OF PATENTS DELIVERED. 1884-1924. 1 vol., 3 in., 6.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged in rough chronological order by date of patent. Alphabetically indexed by name of entryman.

Recorded are the type of land entry made and its certificate number; the name of the person to whom patented; the name of the person to whom the patent was sent; and the date and where the patent was sent, which usually was to the land office. Other "Records of Patents Delivered" are described in entries 24, 58, and 123.

103. COMBINED REGISTER OF STATE LAND SELECTIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS LETTERS. 1892-1909. 1 vol., 1 in., 3 cm. Volume 1.

State selection lists are arranged chronologically by date the land was selected. Letters received are arranged chronologically by date

received at the Evanston Land Office.

Information given for the state land selections includes the state selection list number, the date the land was selected, its legal description, and the number of acres obtained. Also noted is the type of selection, which includes "school indemnity," "agricultural college," "penal reform," and "insane asylum."

The volume also records letters received at the Evanston Land Office between 1907 and 1909. Listed are the date received, by whom sent, and the name of the town the letter was sent from. There is also listed a miscellaneous record of the returns of the Giant Chief Mining Company for 1897 and 1898.

104. ABSTRACT OF FINAL CERTIFICATES ISSUED FOR THE SALE OF LAND IN UINTA COUNTY, WYOMING. 1883-1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

This volume abstracts the final certificates issued for all types of land entries in Uinta County. Listed are the type of entry and certificate number, the date the final certificate was issued, the name and residence of entryman, and the legal description of the land. The "remarks" section normally includes either the price paid per acre or the total purchase price of the land. This volume also contains a few miscellaneous entries filed at the Lander and Cheyenne land offices.

Related records are found in the various "Registers" of land entries filed at the Evanston Land Office.

LANDER LAND OFFICE

105. LETTERS RECEIVED FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE. 1926-27. 1 ft., 32 cm.

Arranged in chronological order by date received.

This correspondence was sent by the Commissioner or an Assistant Commissioner of the General Land Office to officials at the Lander Land Office. The letters relate primarily to the administration of the land office and include instructions to the Register and Receiver, decisions made by the Commissioner concerning an individual land entry, requests for proofs that requirements have been met on certain entries, orders for hearings on various claims, and responses to problems arising at the land office.

Related records are the "Commissioner's Letters" described in entries 15, 16, 27, and 124.

106. ABSTRACT OF CASH ENTRIES. 1890-1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by certificate number. Certificates 1-569.

This is a typical abstract, which lists the cash certificate number and date sold; the name and residence of the purchaser; the number of acres of the tract; the price charged per acre and total purchase price; the amount of payment received in military scrip, if applicable; and a cross-reference to the General Land Office tract book in which the entry is located.

107. REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD ENTRIES. 1890-1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 6 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by homestead application number. Applications 1-2423.

This is a typical register containing the same type of information recorded in the "Registers of Homestead Entries" described in entries 21, 34, 65, and 80. Most of the entries that were patented are stamped "patented". Relinquished and cancelled entries are stamped "cancelled."

Related records are found in entry 108, "Register of Homestead Entries on Shoshone Lands."

108. REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD ENTRIES ON SHOSHONE INDIAN LANDS. 1906-08. 1 vol., 2 in., 5.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by application number. Applications 1-775.

This register records homestead entries made on Shoshone Indian Lands. Listed for each entry are the number and date of the application, the legal description and acreage of the tract entered, the name and residence of the applicant, fees and commissions paid, and remarks concerning the entry. For some entries this includes the patent number and date issued, whether final proofs were filed, and the date of relinquishment or cancellation.

Related records include the "Register of Homestead Entries" described in entry 107.

109. REGISTER OF HOMESTEAD FINAL CERTIFICATES. 1890-1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by certificate number. Certificates 1-926.

Recorded in the register are the homestead final certificate number and date issued, the legal description and acreage of the land, the name and residence of the applicant, the original application number, the commissions paid, and a remarks column. Remarks listed include any corrections made on the certificate, such as the changing of the name of the patentee in cases in which the original entryman is deceased, and occasionally, the date the entry was patented.

Related records are the "Abstract of Cash Entries" and the "Register of Homestead Entries" described in entries 106 and 107, respectively.

110. REGISTER OF APPLICATIONS FOR MINERAL PATENTS. 1891-1908. 1 vol., 1 in., 3 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by application number. Applications 1-50.

Listed for each application are the application number and date filed, the name and residence of the applicant, the name of the mine, the name of the mining district and the county the mine was located in, the legal description and size of the claim, and remarks that relate to the entry. These usually include the survey number, whether the claim is gold-bearing quartz land, and for some entries, the metes and bounds of the survey.

Related records are included in the "Register of Mineral Entries" and the "Register of Adverse Mineral Claims" described in entries 111 and 112, respectively.

111. COMBINED REGISTER OF MINERAL ENTRIES AND COAL LAND ENTRIES. 1891-1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by certificate number. Mineral certificates 1-50. Coal land certificate 1-115.

The first part of this volume describes mineral entries filed at the Lander Land Office. Recorded are the name of the claimant and his claim; the date purchased; the embracing lot number, which usually includes the survey number and legal description of the claim; the size of the claim; and the amount paid. Remarks occasionally listed for some entries include the date and number of the patent issued, whether the mineral survey was conducted by the metes and bounds system, or whether a protest had been filed against the claim.

The remaining part of this volume records 115 coal land entries. Information given includes the name and date of the claimant, the certificate number and date issued, the legal description and size of the land, its purchase price, and whether the entry was patented. For patented entries, the patent number and date of issue are usually given.

Related records are found in entry 110, "Register of Applications for Mineral Patents."

112. REGISTER OF ADVERSE MINERAL CLAIMS. 1899-1905. 1 vol., 2 in., 4.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by adverse claim number. Claims 1-22.

This register records claims filed against mineral entries that supposedly had not complied with the requirements of public land laws. Listed are the number of the adverse claim and the date filed, the name and address of the adverse claimant, the name of his mining claim, the name of the applicant against whom the adverse claim had been filed, the name of the original applicant's mine and its application number, and the legal description of the land in question.

The "Registers" described in entries 110 and 111 relate to this entry.

113. REGISTER OF TIMBER-CULTURE ENTRIES. 1890-1891. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by application number. Applications 1-5.

This register contains the same type of information as the "Registers" described in entries 44 and 68. Only five entries are recorded in the volume.

114. REGISTER OF TIMBER-CULTURE FINAL CERTIFICATES. 1898-1901. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by certificate number. Certificates 1-3.

This volume contains only three timber-culture final certificate entries. Listed for each entry is the same type of information found in the "Registers of Timber-Culture Final Certificates" described in entry 45.

Related records are found in the "Register of Timber-Culture Entries" described in entry 113.

115. RECEIVER'S ABSTRACT OF DECLARATORY STATEMENTS. 1890-1906. 1 vol., 2 in., 5.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by type of declaratory statement and thereunder by declaratory statement number.

Declaratory Statements were filed by settlers in areas that either had not been surveyed or had been surveyed but not officially opened for settlement. The statement declared that the settler intended to purchase or homestead the land he was on as soon as permitted to do so. The declaratory statement gave the settler pre-emptive rights to the land for 60 to 180 days, although in practice the land office might recognize the rights for a longer period of time.

This volume abstracts three different types of declaratory statements recorded at the Lander Land Office. Included are declaratory statements 1-27 filed between 1890 and 1902 on lands not offered for public sale, coal declaratory statements 1-413 filed between 1890 and 1906, and reservoir declaratory statements 1-85 recorded between 1899 and 1904. The same information is listed for each type of declaratory statement. This includes the statement number and date filed, the date of settlement, the name of the declarant, the legal description of the land, and remarks. The remarks usually refer to the date of relinquishment or cancellation and, occasionally, the number of acres of the claim.

Related records are found in the "Register's Abstract" described in entry 116 and the "Combined Monthly Abstract of Soldiers' and Coal Land Declaratory Statements" described in entry 117.

116. REGISTER'S ABSTRACT OF DECLARATORY STATEMENTS. 1890-1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by type of declaratory statement and thereunder by declaratory statement number.

This volume was maintained by the Register of the Lander Land Office and records information on the same types of declaratory statements as described in the previous entry. Included are declaratory statements 1-26 filed between 1890 and 1896 on lands not offered for public sale, coal declaratory statements 20-513 filed between 1894 and 1908, and reservoir declaratory statements 1-85 filed between 1899 and 1904.

117. COMBINED MONTHLY ABSTRACT OF SOLDIERS' DECLARATORY STATEMENTS AND OF COAL LAND DECLARATORY STATEMENTS. 1906-08. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by type of declaratory statement and thereunder by declaratory statement number. Soldiers' declaratory statements 1-1&J. Coal land declaratory statements 1-21.

The first part of the volume records soliders' declaratory statements, while the second part of the volume lists 21 coal land statements. Information given for both types of declaratory statements include the statement number and date filed, the name and residence of declarant, and the legal description of the land.

118. REGISTER'S ABSTRACT OF DESERT LAND ENTRIES. 1890-1908. 1 vol., 2 in. 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by certificate number. Certificates 1-1312.

This is a typical Register's monthly abstract containing the same type of information recorded in the "Abstracts" described in entries 23, 39, 68 and 88. The dates of cancellations, reinstatements, and of final or yearly proofs made are usually noted. Many of the later entries are stamped "cancelled."

Related records include the "Receiver's Abstract of Desert Land Entries" and the "Register of Desert Land Final Certificates" described in entries 119 and 120, respectively.

119. RECEIVER'S ABSTRACT OF DESERT LAND ENTRIES. 1890-1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by certificate number. Certificates 1-1153.

This volume contains the same information found in the "Register's Abstracts" described in entry 118. It is also annotated to indicate relinquishments or the issuance of cash certificates.

Related records are also found in entry 120, "Register of Desert Land Final Certificates."

120. REGISTER OF DESERT LAND FINAL CERTIFICATES. 1890-1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 4 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by certificate number. Certificates 1-321.

This register records the certificate number and date issued, the name and residence of the purchaser, the legal description and acreage of the tract, the original payment received at \$.25 per acre, the final payment received at \$1.00 per acre, and the original declaration number. Some entries are annotated to indicate whether they were patented or cancelled.

Related records include the "Register's Abstract of Desert Land Entries" described in entry 118.

121. REGISTER OF CASH CERTIFICATES OF INDIAN LANDS. 1906-08. 1 vol., 2 in., 5.5 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged by certificate number. Certificates 1-1364.

This volume records cash certificates issued for entries made on Shoshone or Wind River lands which were ceded under the authority of the act of March 3, 1905 (33 Stat. 454). Information given includes the certificate number and date issued, the name and residence of the entryman, the legal description of the tract purchased, the size of the tract, the amount paid per acre, and the total purchase price.

122. REGISTER OF PATENTS DELIVERED. 1892-1908. 1 vol., 2 in., 6 cm. Volume 1.

Arranged alphabetically by first letter of the last name of the entryman. Indexed alphabetically by name of entryman.

This register lists the kind of land entry the patent was issued for; the final certificate number; name of patentee; the date the patent was issued; to whom, when, and where the patent actually was sent; and where the patent entry is recorded in the General Land Office patent books.

Other "Registers of Patents Delivered" are described in entries 24, 58, and 102.

123. COMBINED REGISTER OF WATER RIGHTS APPLICATIONS AND LISTS OF RESTORED ENTRIES IN NATIONAL FORESTS. 1908-21. 1 vol., 2 in., 5 cm. Volume 1.

The first part of the volume is arranged by water right application certificate number. Certificates 1-29. The second part of the volume is arranged in rough chronological order by date entry was restored.

The first part of this volume records information relating to the filing of application for water rights under the provisions of the Reclamation Act of March 1, 1908 (35 Stat. 1045). Listed are the application certificate number and date issued, the applicant's name and residence, the legal description of the entry, its total number of acres, and how many of those acres are irrigable. The applications were filed for the use of water to be supplied by the Shoshone Reclamation project. The applications were all filed in 1908.

Thirty-one lists of restored entries in the Bonneville, Shoshone, and Yellowstone National Forests between 1908 and 1921 are recorded in the second part of the volume. Information given includes the legal description of the entry, its size, the name of the national forest the land is located within, and the date the land was to be opened for entry. Attached to some of the entries are newspaper clippings that give notice to the public of the land openings.

SUNDANCE LAND OFFICE

124. LETTERS RECEIVED FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE. 1911-18. 1 ft., 32 cm.

Arranged in rough chronological order by date received.

Most of these letters concern the administration and operation of the land office at Sundance. The letters relate to budget appropriations, personnel actions, fiscal accounts, and internal policies and procedures. There are also some miscellaneous copies of General Land Office circulars and telegrams received.

VARIOUS LAND OFFICES

125. RIGHT-OF-WAY AND RAILROAD LAND GRANT PLATS. 1874-1927. 4 ft., 1.2 m.

Arranged roughly by type of plat.

This series consists of the plats drawn to show right-of-way and railroad land grants issued at the Cheyenne and Douglas land offices. Included are right-of-way plats for power sites, telephone lines, irrigation companies, reservoirs, and roads on Indian lands. The series also includes railroad land grant plats for the following railroads: Idaho and Wyoming; Nebraska, Wyoming, and Western; Sweetwater Valley; Uintah Coal; Union Pacific; Utah and Wyoming; Wyoming and Eastern; and Wyoming State.

There are also some miscellaneous copies of state list selections in this entry. Recorded are the selection list number, date of selection, legal description of the tract, and a written verification by a GLO examiner that the land is non-mineral in character and free from any adverse claims.

126. ENLARGED HOMESTEAD DESIGNATIONS. 1909-41. 1 ft., 32 cm.

Arranged in chronological order by date of letter.

These letters were sent by the Assistant Commissioner of the General Land Office to the Register and Receiver of the land offices in Douglas, Cheyenne, and Lander. The letters describe land eligible for settlement under the Enlarged Homestead Act of February 19, 1909 (35 Stat. 639), which increased the size of an allowable homestead to 320 acres. The designation list was compiled by the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey and sent to the Secretary of the Interior. The list describes the land eligible for the change in land status. Copies of those lists are attached to the transmittal sent to the Register and Receiver. There is also found in this series some miscellaneous correspondence concerning the lists.

"Enlarged Homestead Designations" filed at the Buffalo Land Office are described in entry 17.

127. STOCKRAISING HOMESTEAD DESIGNATIONS. 1918-41. 2 ft., 62 cm.

Arranged in chronological order by date of letter.

This series consists of letters sent by the Commissioner to the Registers of the Douglas, Cheyenne, and Lander land offices that describe lands eligible for settlement under the provisions of the Stock Raising Act of 1916 (39 Stat. Part I, p. 862). This act enabled an individual to obtain 640 acres of land void of access to any irrigation source and containing no merchantable timber. The primary use of the land was to be for grazing.

Usually attached to the designation is a copy of the letter sent by the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey to the Secretary of the

Interior describing lands eligible for stockraising homesteads. The land is listed by its legal description under the land office district it fell within.

"Stockraising Designations" filed at the Buffalo Land Office are described in entry 18.

128. LAND GRANT FILES. 1871-1921. 1 ft., 32 cm.

Arranged by type of land grant and thereunder by list number. Miscellaneous documents found in this series are unarranged.

This series consists primarily of lists of state land selections set aside for the State of Wyoming's educational, reservoir, custodial, and recreational sites. The majority of the land grants were filed at the Douglas and Lander land offices. Information given on the land selections includes the list number, the date of selection, how the land was to be utilized, and the legal description of the land tracts.

This series also contains copies of presidential proclamations either establishing national forests or changing their boundaries. The proclamations are accompanied by survey plats showing the borders of the forests.

Miscellaneous correspondence found in this entry includes accounting statements from private companies showing payment of royalties due the Federal government for oil and gas produced on leased lands. There is also a small miscellaneous register of land entries formerly closed by the Buffalo Land Office that had been reopened.

Related records are found in entries 64, "Lists of Land Granted to State of Wyoming" and 71, "Register's Abstract of Land Selected by the State of Wyoming."

129. RANGE SURVEY RECORDS. 1938-41. 1 ft., 32 cm.

Arranged by township and range numbers.

This series consists of records of surveys executed by officials of the Division of Grazing on land in the Rawlins, Wyoming Field Surveying District. There is a folder for each township which contains documents relating to the survey executed within that area. Included is a reconnaissance field report prepared by the surveyor that describes the type of vegetation, water resources, wildlife, erosion, and grazing utilization of the land. Also found in some folders are photostatic copies of General Land Office plats and hand drawn plats of the area surveyed.

APPENDIX I
GLOSSARY

Abandoned military reservation	A military reservation (fort, post, etc.) that has been deactivated and transferred to the Secretary of the Interior for final disposition.
Additional homestead entry	A homestead entry that was made by an individual for public lands additional to those he had already acquired under the homestead laws. The total area covered by the entryman's original and additional homestead claims could not exceed the maximum acreage allowed by the class of entry involved (i.e., a total of 160 acres under the Homestead Act).
Adverse claim	A notice of protest filed by one claimant against the approval of a mineral application made by a rival entryman upon a specific portion of the public domain.
Agricultural college scrip or ACS	Scrip issued to certain qualifying states, the proceeds from the disposition of which were to be used for the support of agricultural and mechanical colleges. See Morrill Act of 1862 (12 Stat. 503).
Applicant	An individual, corporation, state or local government, or other non-federal entity applying for rights in or title to public land or resources.
Application	The formal request by the applicant for rights in or title to public land or resources.
Cadastral survey	The system of creating, marking, and defining the boundaries of tracts of land. This includes a field note record of the observations and measurements made, the monuments erected or used, and the topography and a descriptive plat.

Cancellation	An action undertaken by the General Land Office (later the Bureau of Land Management) to abrogate an entryman's right upon the public domain for noncompliance with the requirements of the land laws.
Cash Certificate	A final certificate that was issued in a cash entry claim.
Cash Entry	An entry upon the public domain that was paid for with cash by the entryman.
Claimant	An individual, cooperation, association, state or local government, etc., asserting title to or rights upon the public domain.
Classification	The designation of specific areas of the public domain as having some particular value for a specific use or resource (mineral, timber, desert land, etc.).
Coal entry	An entry made upon portions of the public domain known to contain valuable coal deposits under the legislative authority of the Coal Lands Act of 1873 (17 Stat 607).
Contest	The formal proceedings against a specific entry upon the public domain on the grounds that the contested entry does not comply with the requirements of the land laws.
Decision	A written statement detailing the findings of fact or law with respect to a particular application or claim and usually associated with a contested entry.
Declaratory Statement	A document filed at the nearest land office by a person settling on unsurveyed public domain or land not yet opened for claims. This declared the intention to purchase or homestead that area when it was officially opened and gave preemption rights to the settler for about 60-180 days.
Desert land application	An application filed by a particular state under the legislative authority of the Carey Act of 1894 (28 Stat. 372) to claim arid public lands that were suitable for irrigated agriculture.

Desert land entry	An entry made by an individual claimant upon arid public lands, which were classified as being suitable for irrigated agriculture under the legislative authority of the Desert Land Act of 1877 (19 Stat. 377).
Enlarged homestead	A homestead entry which did not exceed 320 acres of entry non-irrigable agricultural land and made under the legislative authority of the acts of 1909 (35 Stat. 639) and 1910 (36 Stat. 531).
Entry	A generalized term for an applicant's claim upon the public domain. Usually characterized by the type of claim (mineral entry, desert land entry, homestead entry, etc.).
Entryman	See "applicant", above.
Exchange	A transaction between an entryman and the government whereby the latter received land or rights from the former in return for compensatory land or rights elsewhere.
Field notes	The written record of a cadastral survey compiled by the survey party.
Final certificate	A document that affirms that an applicant is entitled to a patent, having met all the requirements of the law, provided that no irregularities are found in connection with his claim.
Final entry	The entry of a claimant at the point where a final certificate is issued.
Final proof	A receipt that acknowledged payment of whatever money was required in connection with the final entry.
Grant	A gift of public land and defined either in quantity or in place. A word commonly used to refer to the gifts of land to individuals made by the Spanish or Mexican governments prior to acquisition of the Southwest by the United States.
Homestead entry	An entry made under the legislative authority of the Homestead Act of 1862 (12 Stat. 392) or its numerous modifications by which an entryman settled upon and improved a specific

	portion of the public domain with the intention of eventually securing title to the land.
Improvements	A development of a permanent nature that tended to increase the value of the land claim (buildings, fences, reservoirs, etc.).
Independent resurvey	A cadastral survey that supercedes an older cadastral survey by establishing new land boundaries although these may, to any extent, be identical with the older lines.
Legal description	The description of a specific area according to its cadastral survey location. Under the rectangular survey system, a plot of land is described as being within a particular quarter of a specific section within a township. The latter is established by reference to the east-west base line and the north south principal meridian in six mile increments constituting a township six miles on a side and containing thirty-six equal sections of one mile square. Each of these one mile square sections is typically divided into northeast, southeast, northwest, and southwest quarters of 160 acres each.
Lot	A subdivision of a section which is not exact and, therefore, not conveniently described in terms of quarters. A lot is typically irregular in shape and acreage and is designated by a number.
Military bounty	A type of scrip issue used to reward veterans, land warrant heirs, or assignees for military service.
Mineral entry	A cash entry upon the public domain that was to be held as a mining claim.
Mineral survey	A cadastral survey of a mineral claim run from at least one mineral monument to a corner, usually No. 1, of the claim.
Mining claim	An entry made upon portions of the public domain classified as containing valuable minerals by either an individual or a corporation. Discovery of valuable minerals entitled the finder to a patent upon payment of \$2.50 per acre for placer claims or \$5.00

per acre for lode claims.

Patent

The legal document conveying title to a specific portion of the public domain upon an entryman after he had satisfied all requirements for gaining such title.

Placer claim

A mining claim entered upon mineralized public domain but not embracing a vein or lode. "Placers" typically refer to the washing out of alluvial deposits in stream beds by some mechanical means such as a rocker or sluice box.

Plat

A map usually drawn from the field notes and showing the boundaries, subdivisions, acreage, topography, improvements, mineral claims, and other features of a specific region. A plat could be of a mineral claim, townsite, township, right-of-way, or any similar area which had been surveyed.

Preemption

A cash entry made under the legislative authority of the Distribution-Preemption Act of 1841 (5 Stat. 567) or its subsequent modifications. Preemption was a method of protecting squatters who had settled land in advance of its being opened for claims by allowing them formally to enter their lands without competition at the time of such an opening. (See also Declaratory Statement)

Principal meridian

The survey line running north and south which, in conjunction with the base line, forms the basis of the rectangular survey system.

Private land claim

A claim to a specific portion of land based upon a right obtained by the claimant while the land was under the control of a foreign government. In Colorado most of these claims were derived from Spanish and Mexican grants.

Protest

A formal objection to an entry or application.

Quarter section

One quarter of a section of a township and usually designated as either the northeast, northwest, southeast, or southwest quarter and containing 160 acres. Although practice was usually different from the ideal, the

	land laws tended to regard the 160 acre quarter section as a definitive point of reference for land claims.
Receiver	The government official in the local land office who was responsible for accepting and accounting for the public funds associated with land claims.
Reclamation project	A development project designed to bring water to or in some way irrigate arid lands.
Register	The government official in the local land office who was charged with receiving applications for entries, annotating the tract, serial register, and plat books; preparing monthly reports on such transactions; compiling the papers which would eventually comprise the land entry case files; and forwarding this material to the General Land Office.
Rejection	A refusal on the part of the General Land Office to accept an application because it was improperly filed or conflicted with the public land laws.
Relinquishment	A voluntary yielding up of a claim on the part of the entryman.
Right-of-way	The use of public lands to make a corridor for certain specified purposes such as construction of a railroad, pipeline, road, or telephone lines.
Scrip	A certificate that was used like cash to allow the holder to select a specified number of acres from the public domain for settlement. The most common instances of scrip were veterans' bonuses and Morrill Act issues but a large number of small, special scrip authorizations were also made over the years.
Serial register system	A type of recordkeeping system that began on July 1, 1908. The serial system assigned consecutive entry numbers to claimants in the order in which they filed at the local land office regardless of where their claim was in the district.

Stockraising homestead entry	A type of homestead entry made under the legislative authority of the Stockraising Homestead Act of 1916 (39 Stat. 863), which provided for the homesteading of up to 640 acres of land that had been classified as being chiefly valuable for grazing and forage crops.
Timber and stone entry	A type of cash entry made under the legislative authority of the Timber and Stone Act of 1878 (20 Stat. 90) for portions of the public domain deemed chiefly valuable for their timber or stone resources and unfit for cultivation.
Timber culture entry	An entry made under the legislative authority of the Timber Culture Act of 1873 (17 Stat. 605), which provided a mechanism whereby an entryman could claim up to a quarter section in return for planting and nurturing a required number of acres in trees.
Township	A township is the major subdivision resulting from the rectangular survey system. With minor deviations caused by the earth's curvature, a township is six miles square, contains 23,040 acres, and is referred to by its legal description derived from the principal meridian and base line. A township was normally further divided into 36 sections of one mile square.
Tract book	These are record books maintained by the local land office with a duplicate set kept by the General Land Office in which were recorded claims upon the public domain. They are arranged by legal description.
Withdrawal	An action by the government restricting disposal of the public domain in a specific region for some particular purpose such as a reclamation project or the creation of a national forest.

APPENDIX II
TRACT BOOK ABBREVIATIONS

(From "A Guide to Understanding of Tract Books," compiled
by James Muhn, Land Law Historian, Bureau of Land Management)

ACS	Agricultural College Scrip as provided for by the Morrill Act of July 2, 1862. See Scrip.
Can	Cancelled. Land entries were cancelled by the Government for failure to comply with law or regulation.
Carey Act	Lands granted in this method were patented to the state for irrigation purposes as provided by the Carey Land Act of August 18, 1894. See SDS.
CE	A cash sale entry is involved. The notation often refers to the sale of public land under the provisions of the Land Law of 1820; however, it was sometimes used for Preemption Act of 1841, commuted Homestead Act and other entries. Therefore, further research may be required to determine the act under which the land in question was disposed.
Coal	Refers to the sale of land under Coal Lands Sale Act of 1873. This law was replaced in 1920 by the Mineral Leasing Act.
Coal Lse	A lease to extract coal under the provision of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920.
Coal Permit	A permit issued for the purpose of prospecting to determine the existence or workability of coal deposits in any unclaimed or undeveloped area. Issued under the provisions of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920.
DLA	Desert Land Application. See DLE.
DLE	Denotes an entry made under the provisions of the Desert Land Act of 1877 as amended.
D.S.	Declaratory Statement. Used by individuals to notify land office officials of their intent to settle certain lands. Most commonly used in conjunction with the Preemption Act of 1841 or the Homestead Act of 1862.

EHE An entry made under the Enlarged Homestead Act of 1909. Unfortunately, this notation is seldom used. HE is most often employed, but this abbreviation also is used for entries under this original Homestead Act and the Reclamation Act of 1902.

EO Executive Order. Usually only orders making or revoking withdrawals are noted. The number of the Executive Order and its date often are included.

FC This denoted the issuance of a final certificate by local land office officials. The document implies that an entryman has "proved up" under provisions of the law and is entitled to a patent.

FX Land acquired under a number of forest exchange acts. Refer to patent, serial register page, or case file for the act in question.

GHE Grazing Homestead.

Gr Lse Grazing leases on public lands outside of established grazing district.

HA Homestead Act entry (see HE).

HE Homestead Act entry. Can denote the Homestead Act of 1862, Reclamation Act of 1902, Forest Homestead Act of 1906, Enlarged Homestead of 1909, and sometimes the Stock-Raising Homestead Act of 1916.

HES Under the Forest Homestead Act of 1906, homestead entries were allowed in national forest areas classified as chiefly valuable for agricultural purposes. Various factors prevented the extension of rectangular survey system into many areas; consequently, metes-and-bounds surveys were known as Homestead Entry Surveys. The identifying number of the survey follows.

H'd Homestead Act entry (see HE).

IA Indian Allotment as provided for in the Dawes Act of 1887.

IL	Indemnity List Selection. See LS below.
IS	Indemnity Selection. See LS below.
LS	Lieu Selection. A selection of land in exchange for which the applicant relinquishes rights or title to other lands which he, for some reason, cannot or does not wish to acquire. A variety of acts allowed such exchanges for railroads, states, and individuals. Further research in other records may be required.
MC	Mineral Certificate. A document issued to an applicant for a mineral patent noting compliance with the mining law and right to receive patent.
ME	Mineral Entry. Land being taken under the provisions of the mineral land laws. Before the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, oil entries under the Placer Act of 1897 are given these notations. Coal land sale entries, however, never noted in this manner (see Coal).
Min Cert	Mineral Certificate. See MC above.
MLBW	Military Land Bounty Warrant. Before 1862, Congress passed several laws giving land to military veterans. Further research may be required to determine under which bounty act the land is being taken.
MS	Denotes when a Mineral Survey has been conducted for a mining claim applying for patent. It has a metes-and-bounds survey and identified by a number.
Pat	Patent. The document that transferred title to the land from the government to the entryman. Patent number and date usually follows.
Pre '41 or P.A. '41	The land is being taken under the provision of the Preemption Act of 1841.
Pros Per	Prospecting permit issued under the provision of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920.

PS	Public Sale. Land sold at auction or other method. Usually used in period after 1935. More research may be needed to determine law under which the sale of land is authorized.
PW Res	Water power site reserve.
Pwr Site	See PW Res above.
RDS	Reservoir Declaration Statement under Act of February 26, 1897.
Recl Wd1	Reclamation Withdrawal provided for by the Reclamation Act of 1902.
Rel	Relinquishment. Entry person voluntarily gives up his/her right to the entry in question.
RIS	Railroad Indemnity Selection. See LS.
RR	Lands being taken by the railroad named as part of a congressional land grant.
R&R	Denotes letter by the Register and Receiver. These individuals were the two major local land officials.
SAH	A Solider's Additional Homestead entry as provided for under the Act of June 8, 1872.
Scrip	Land acquired by a certificate that allowed owner to make a selection of a specified number of acres. There were a variety of laws providing for scrip. Further research may be needed to identify the type of scrip being utilized.
SDS	State Desert Selection. This abbreviation is sometimes used for land acquired under the provision of the Carey Land Act of 1894 (see Carey Act).
SD Wd1	Stock Driveway Withdrawal as provided for under Section 10 of the Stock-Raising Homestead Act of 1916.
SRHE	An entry made under the Stock-Raising Homestead Act of 1916.

SS A School Section or State Selection. A school section is lands received to support elementary and secondary education. Lands granted at the time of statehood. A state selection denotes lands granted to the state for a variety of purposes. Such grants usually allowed to select a specified acreage or public lands.

TCE Land entered under the provisions of the Timber Culture Act of 1873.

TA Timber application under provisions of the Timber and Stone Act of 1878/1892. See TS.

TS The Timber and Stone Act of 1878/1892.

Wd1 A withdrawal. Actions establishing and/or revoking are usually noted.

APPENDIX III
DIVISIONS OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE

- Division A This was the administrative division of the General Land Office and exercised general supervision over the activities of the agency. This included appointments and promotions, leaves, bonds, personnel, equipment, expenditures, and requisitions. Division A handled the correspondence relating to the local land offices, the administration of such offices including opening new ones and closing others, managed the opening and sale of Indian reservation land, and controlled the printing and binding of agency documents.
- Division B This was the office directly concerned with patents. It was responsible for furnishing certified copies of official records needed as proofs of title.
- Division C This office was the one directly concerned with land claims made under the homestead laws.
- Division D The records management division which kept the files, records, and indices and managed the mail.
- Division E This office exercised general supervision over public surveys.
- Division F Land office business pertaining to desert land claims, reclamation projects, rights-of-way, permits, easements, power sites, and certain withdrawals and restorations were handled by this office.
- Division G Responsible for the land grants to states and corporations.
- Division H Contest division except for mineral claims, which were handled by Division N.
- Division K Indian Lands Division which administered Indian allotments, homesteads, and the opening and sale of reservations (with Division A). This office also handled other land claims which Division C did not handle including preemption and graduation, town sites, military bounty land warrants, agricultural college and other forms of scrip, town sites, private land claims, lieu selections, credit system entries, and abandoned military reservations.
- Division L The map division which had responsibility for the plats, field notes, compiling and copying of plats, and the publication of the annual map of the United States.

Division M The accounting office which maintained general responsibility over the accounts of both the General Land Office in Washington, D.C., and the field offices.

Division N Mineral Land Division with responsibility for mineral applications, patents, leases, and contests. It was also responsible for adjusting claims between mineral and non-mineral lands.

Division O This office was responsible for maintaining the tract books and the posting of land. It also recorded all land claims, withdrawals, and cancellations.

Division FS The Field Service Division handled the reports of special agents concerning fraud, trespass, and enclosures. This office also was concerned with evictions, suits to cancel patents, and the granting of soldiers' additional homesteads.

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